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Geronimo Stilton

THE GREAT ICE AGE

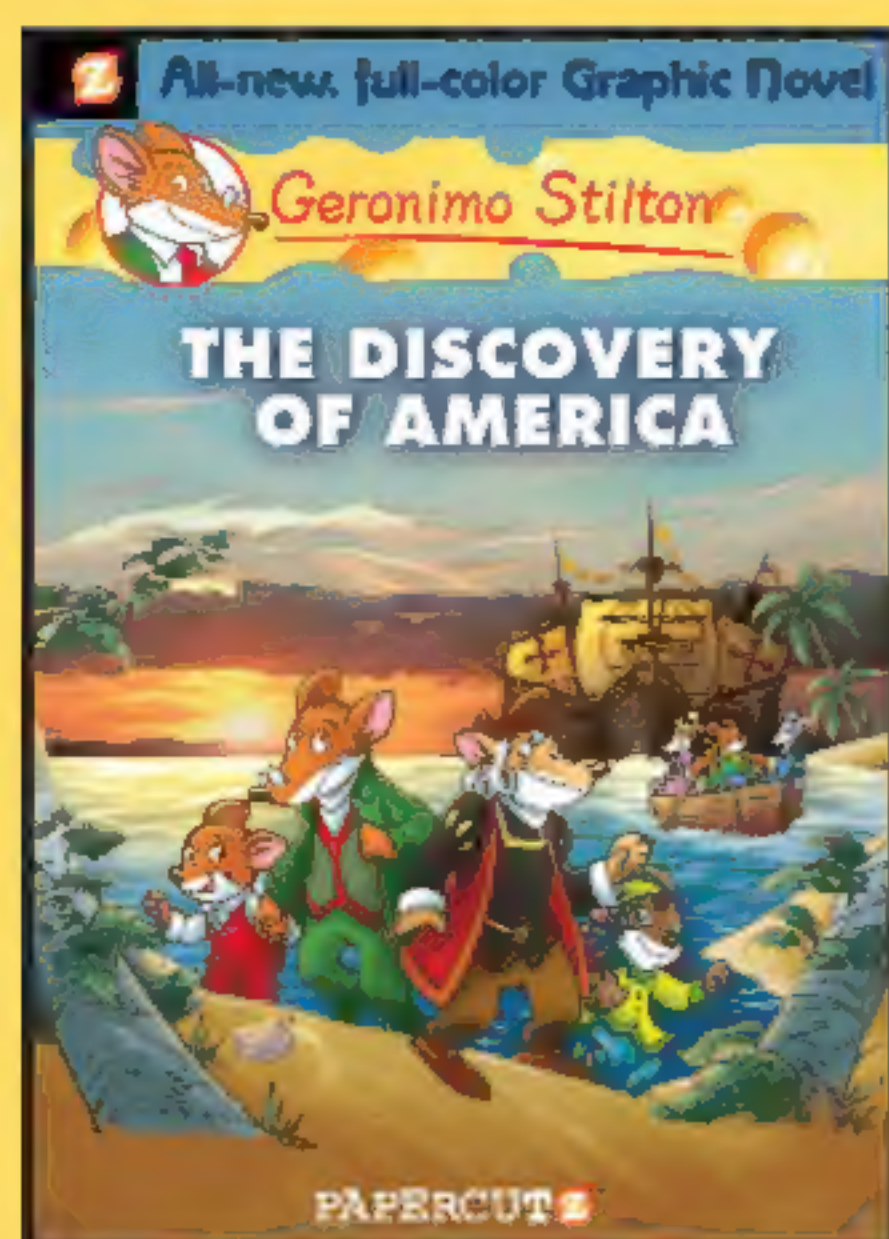


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Geronimo Stilton

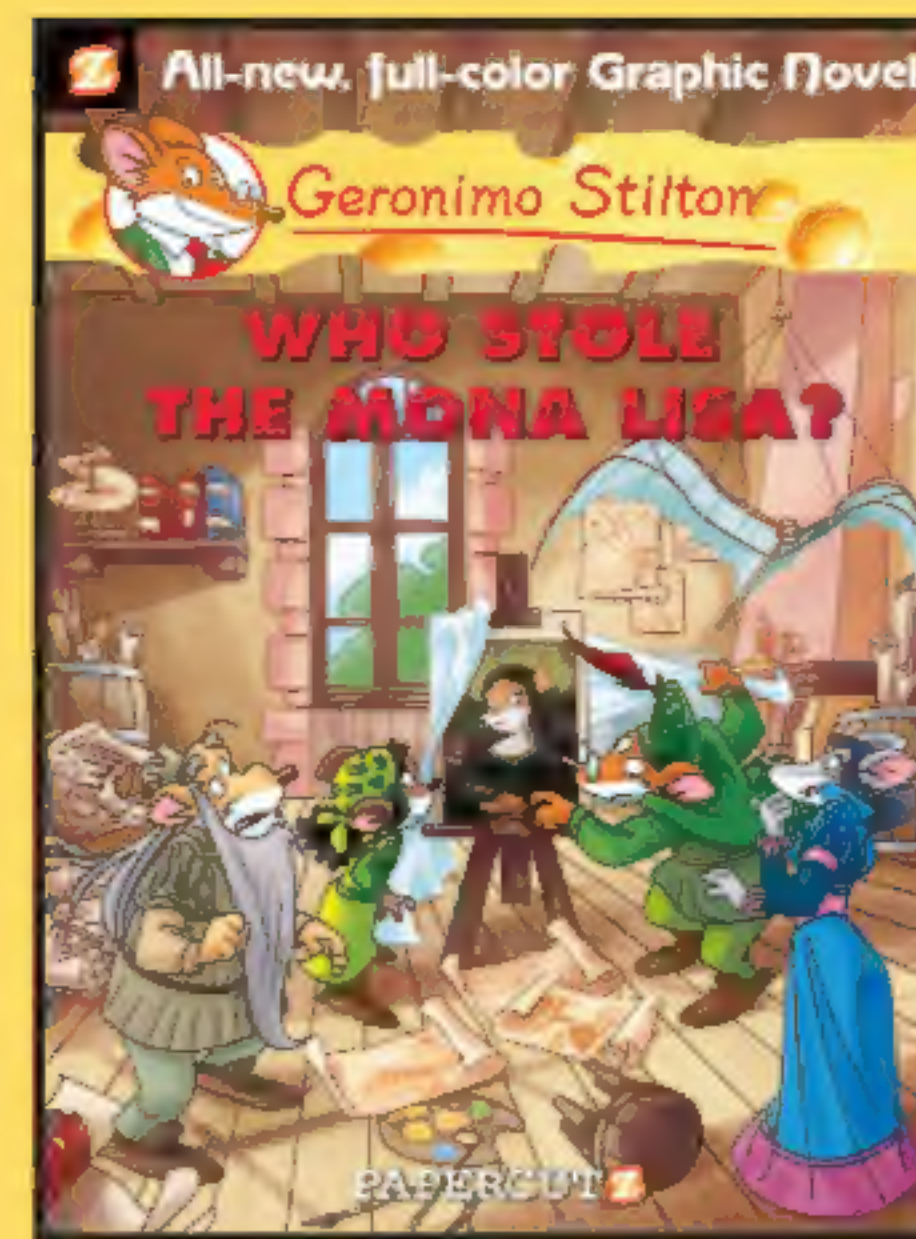
THE GREAT ICE AGE





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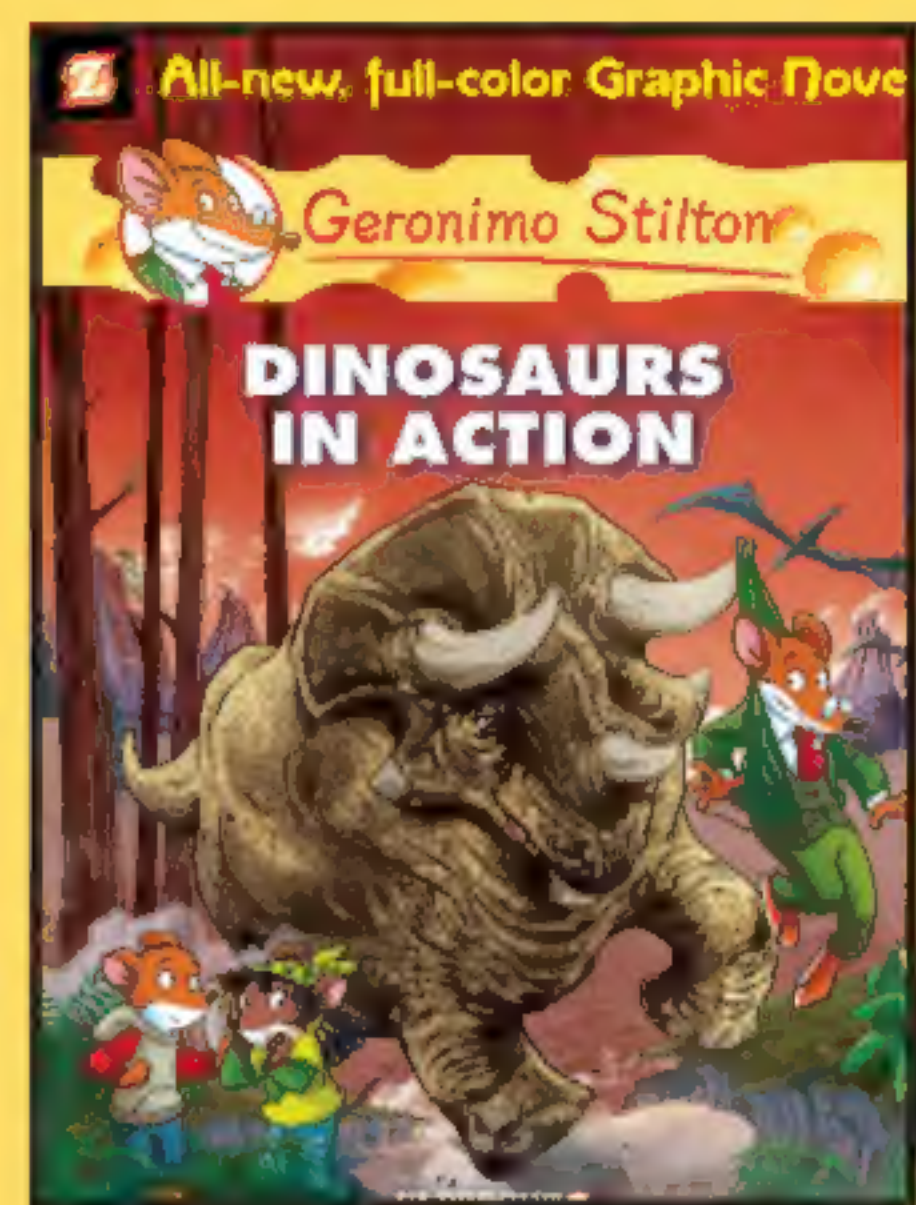
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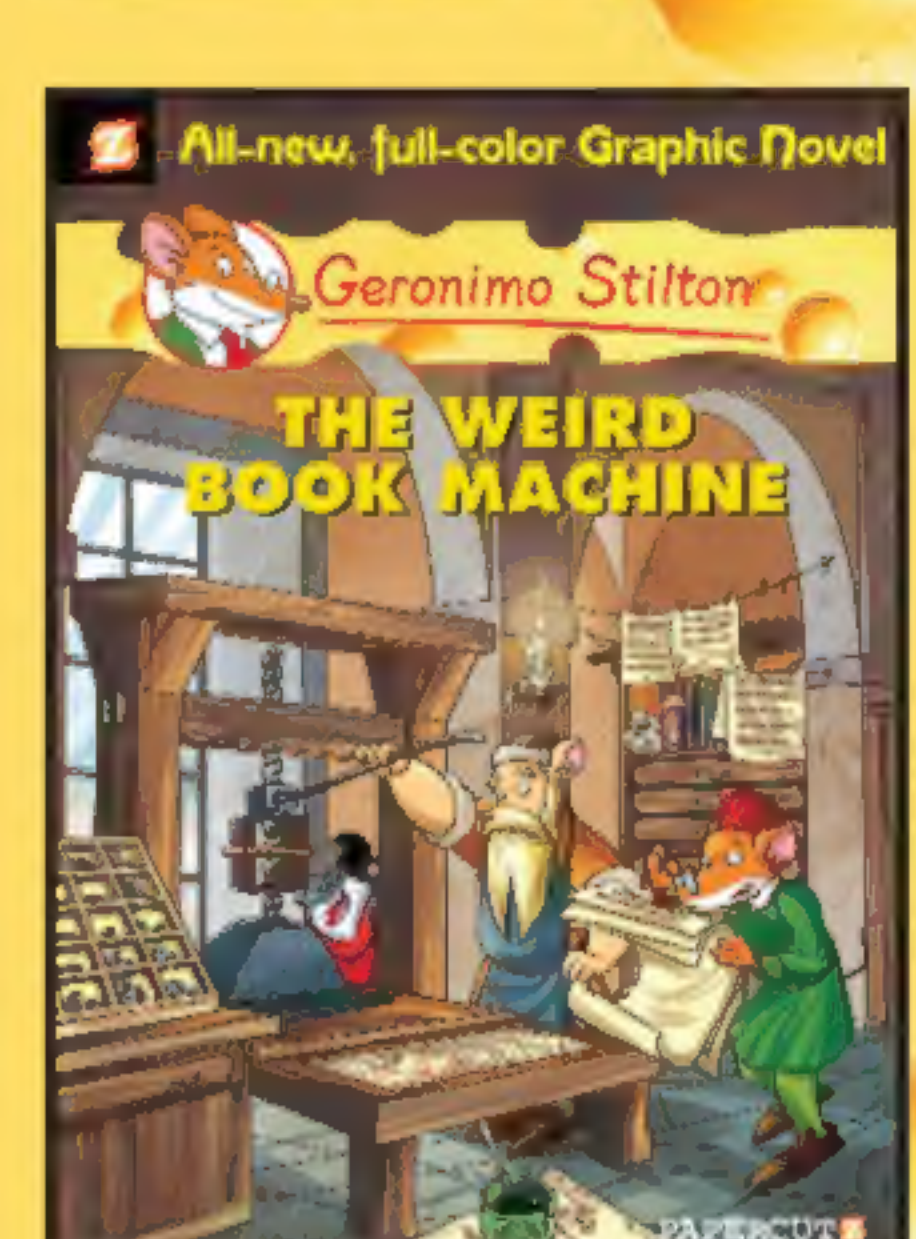
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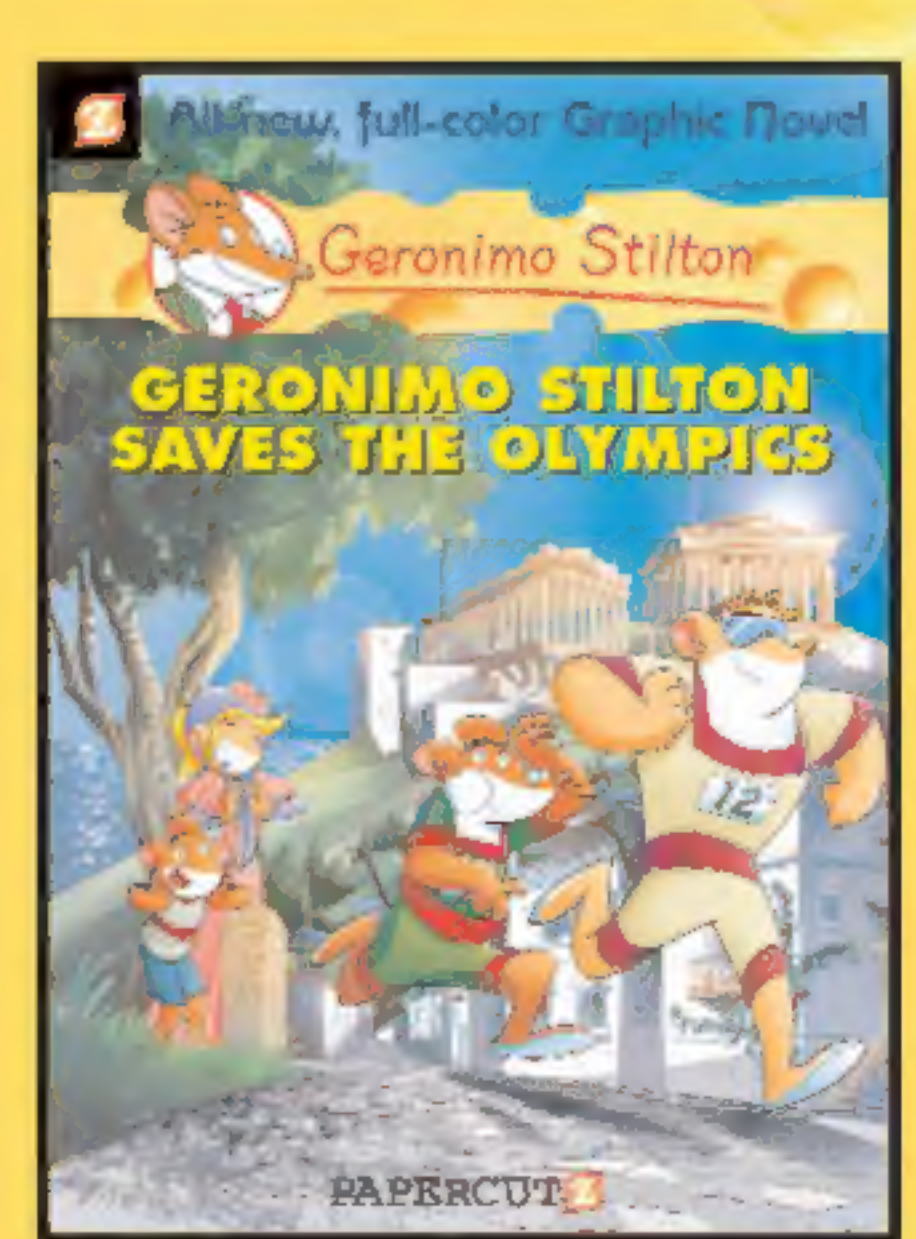
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Geronimo Stilton

THE GREAT ICE AGE

By Geronimo Stilton



THE GREAT ICE AGE
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www.geronimostilton.com

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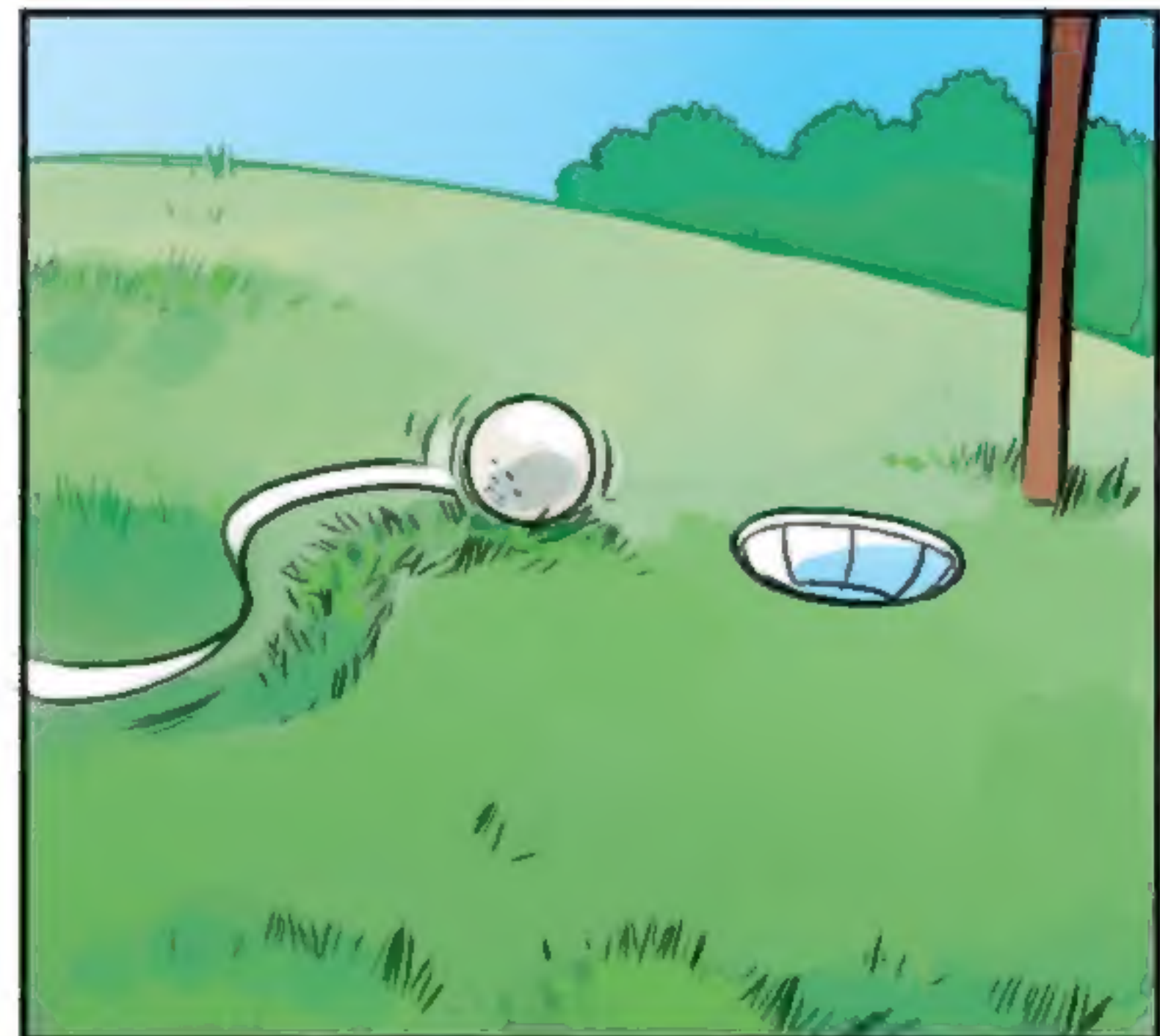
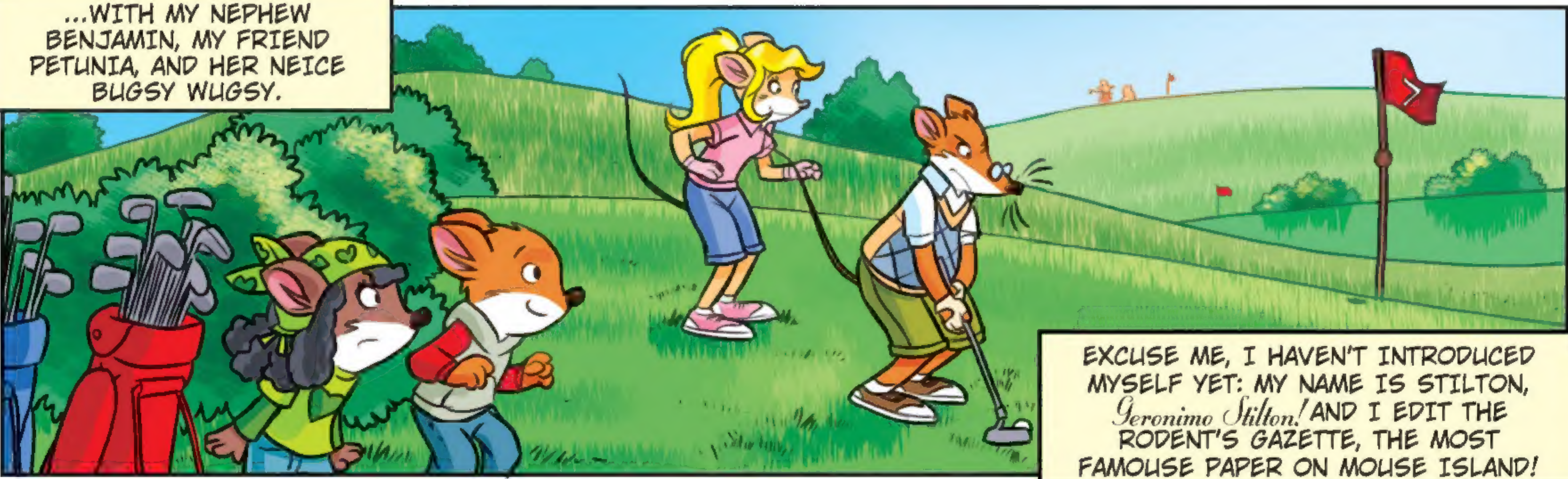
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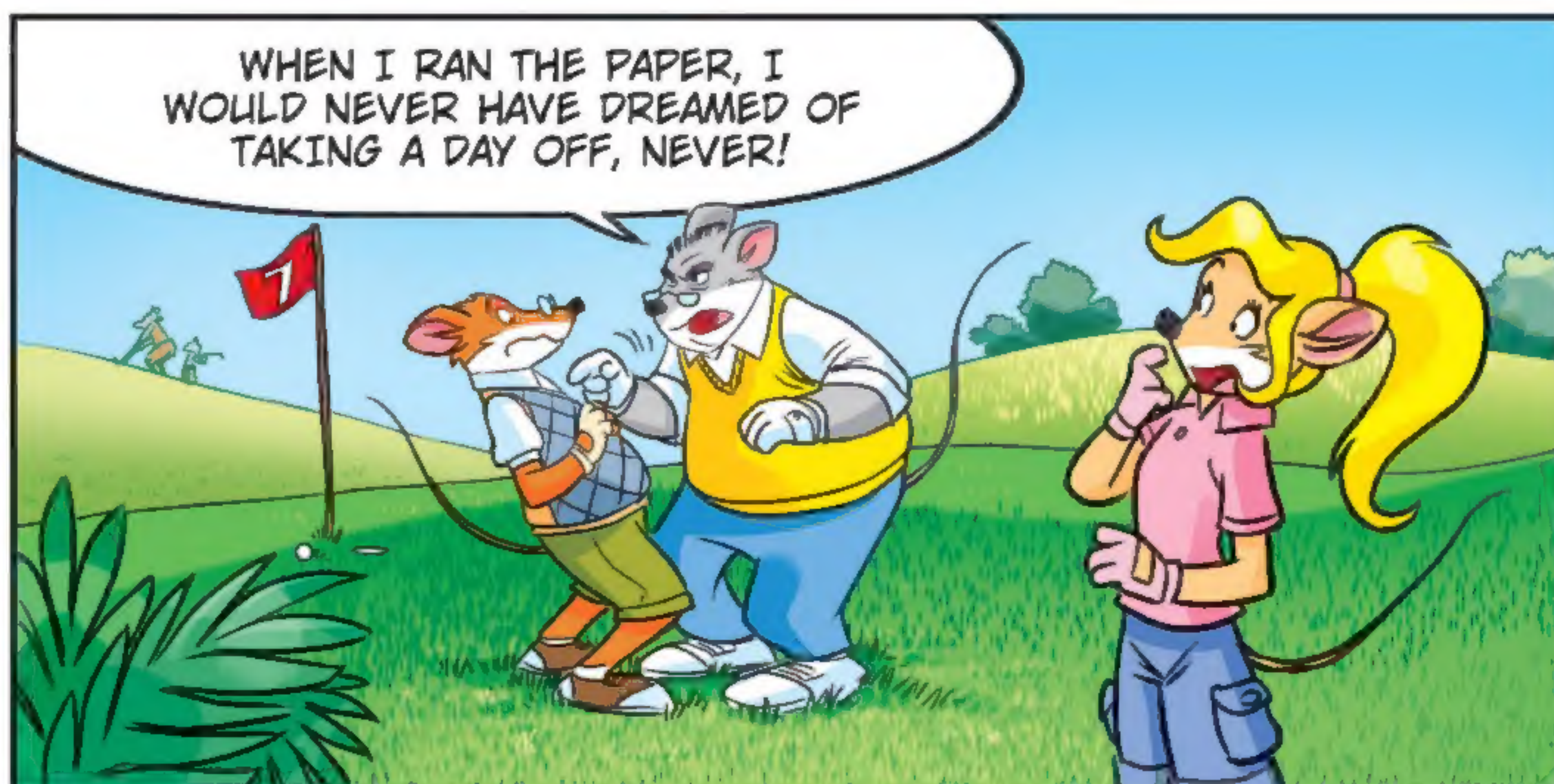
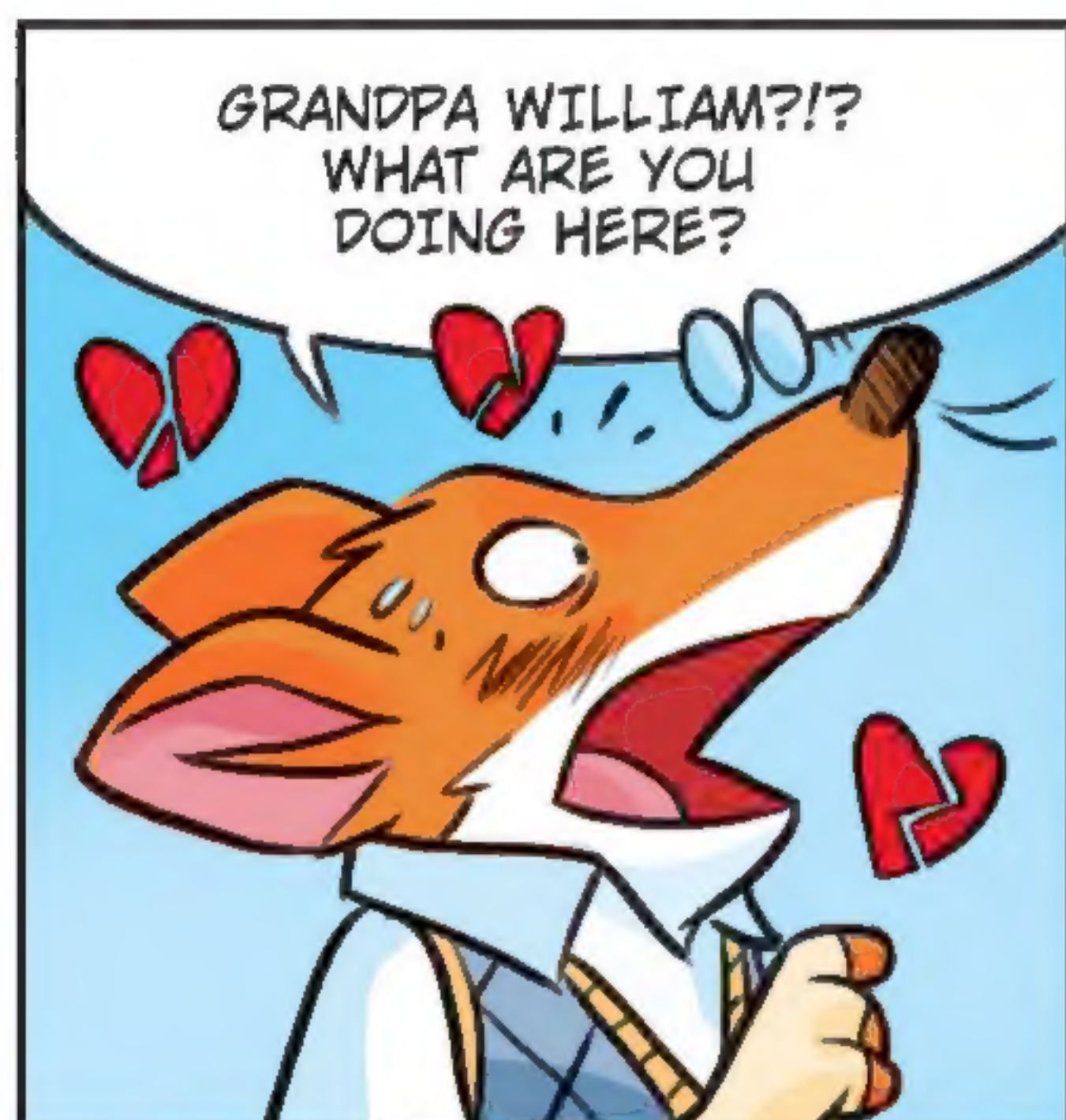
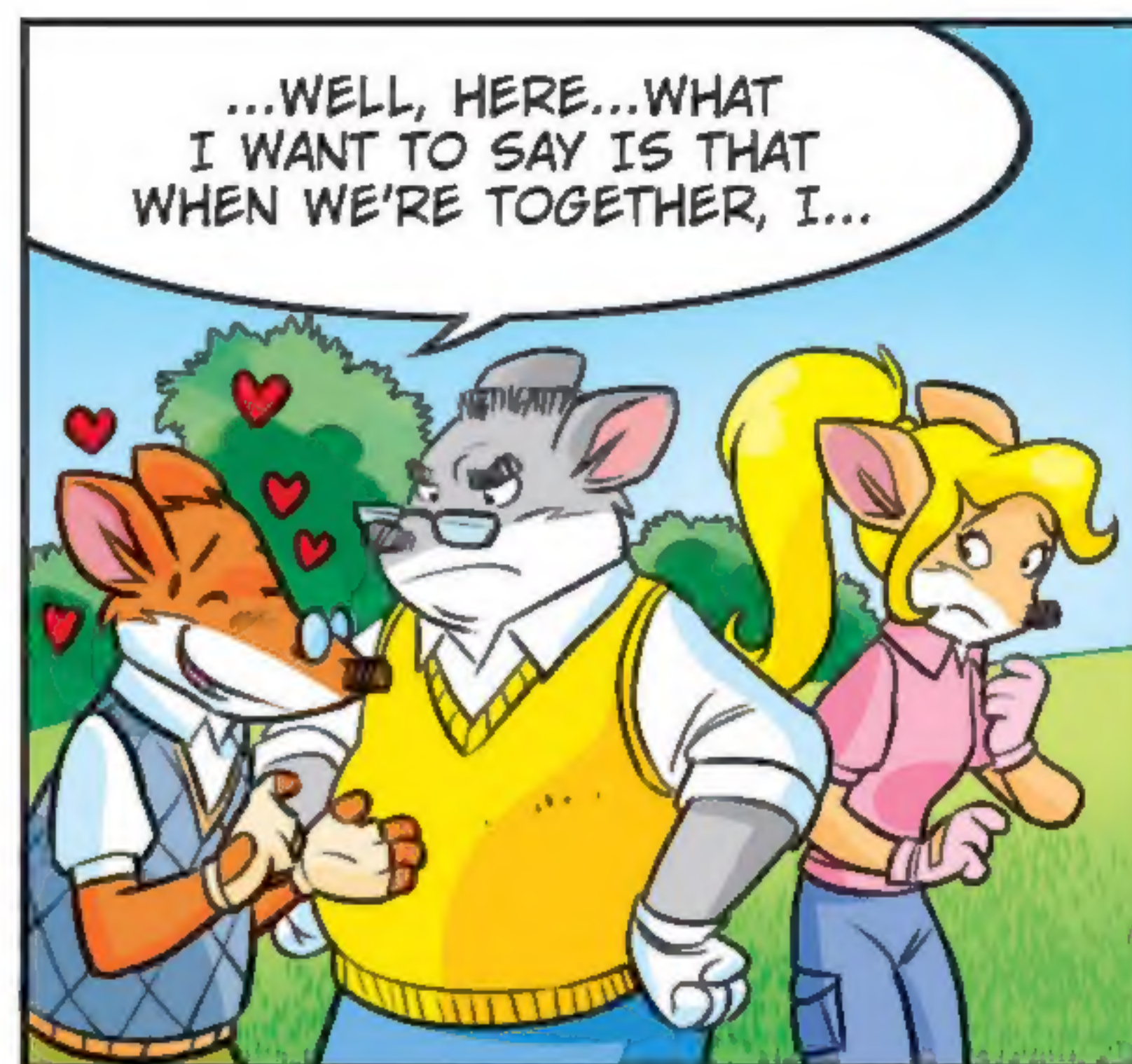
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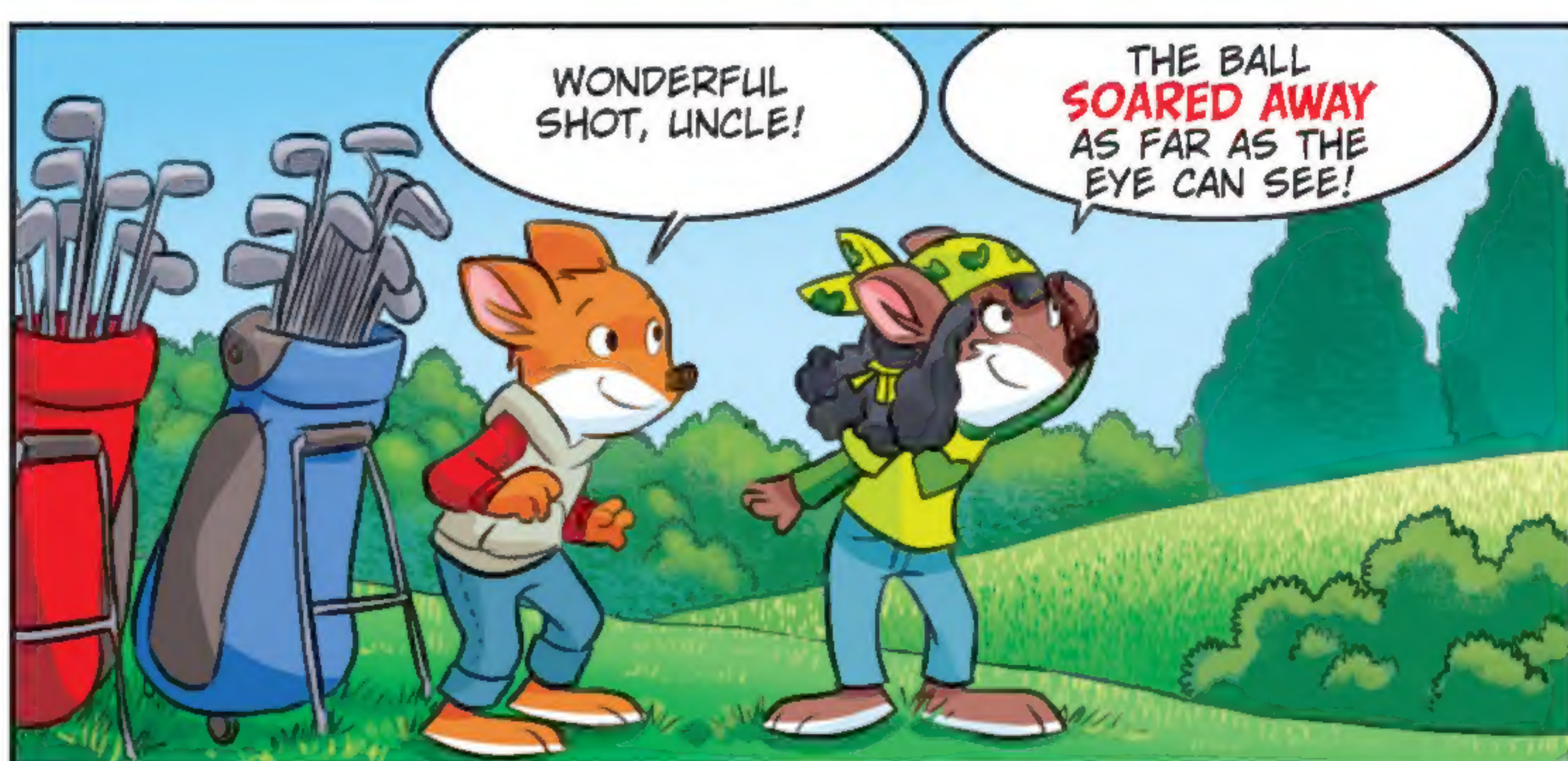
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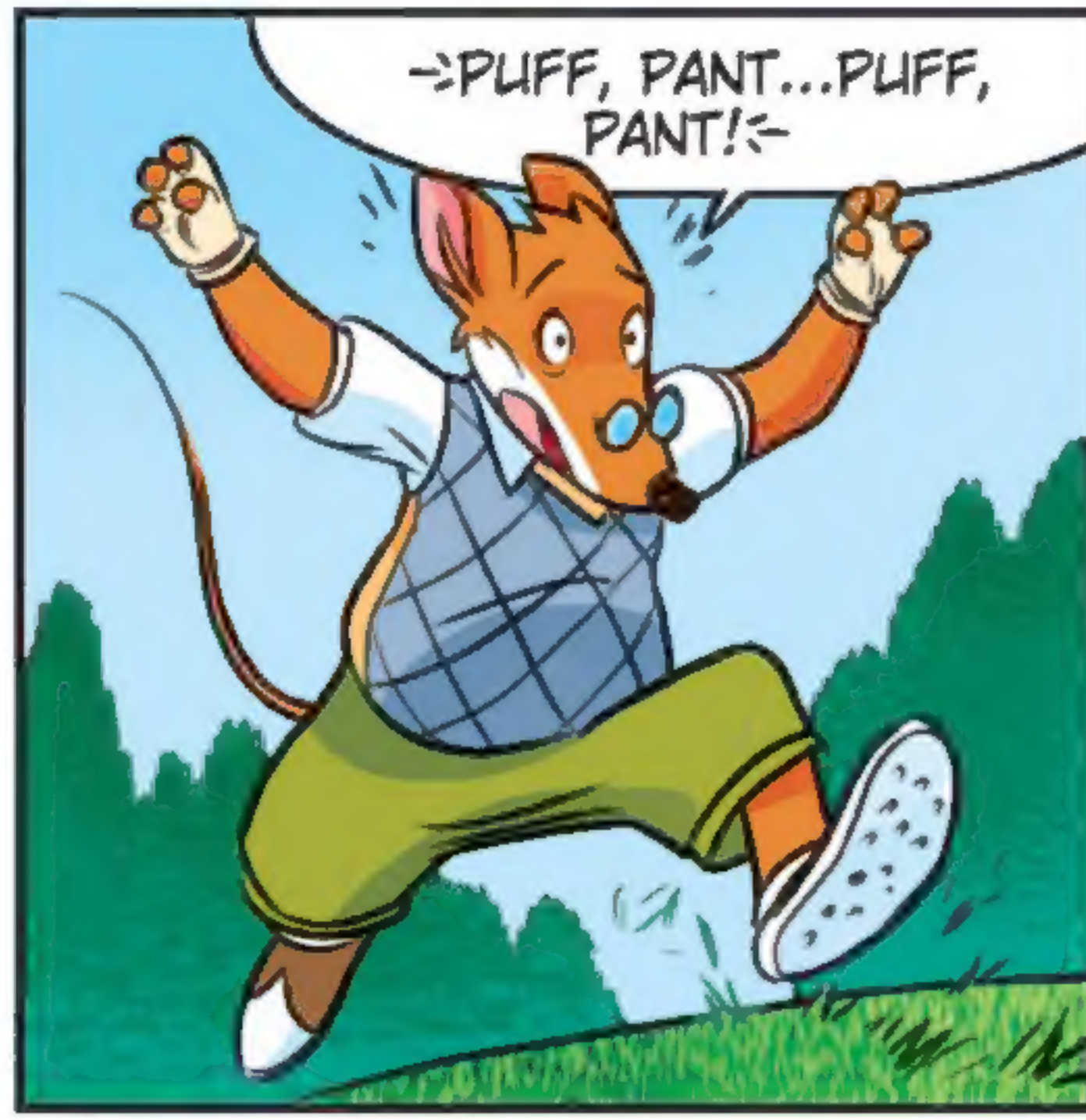
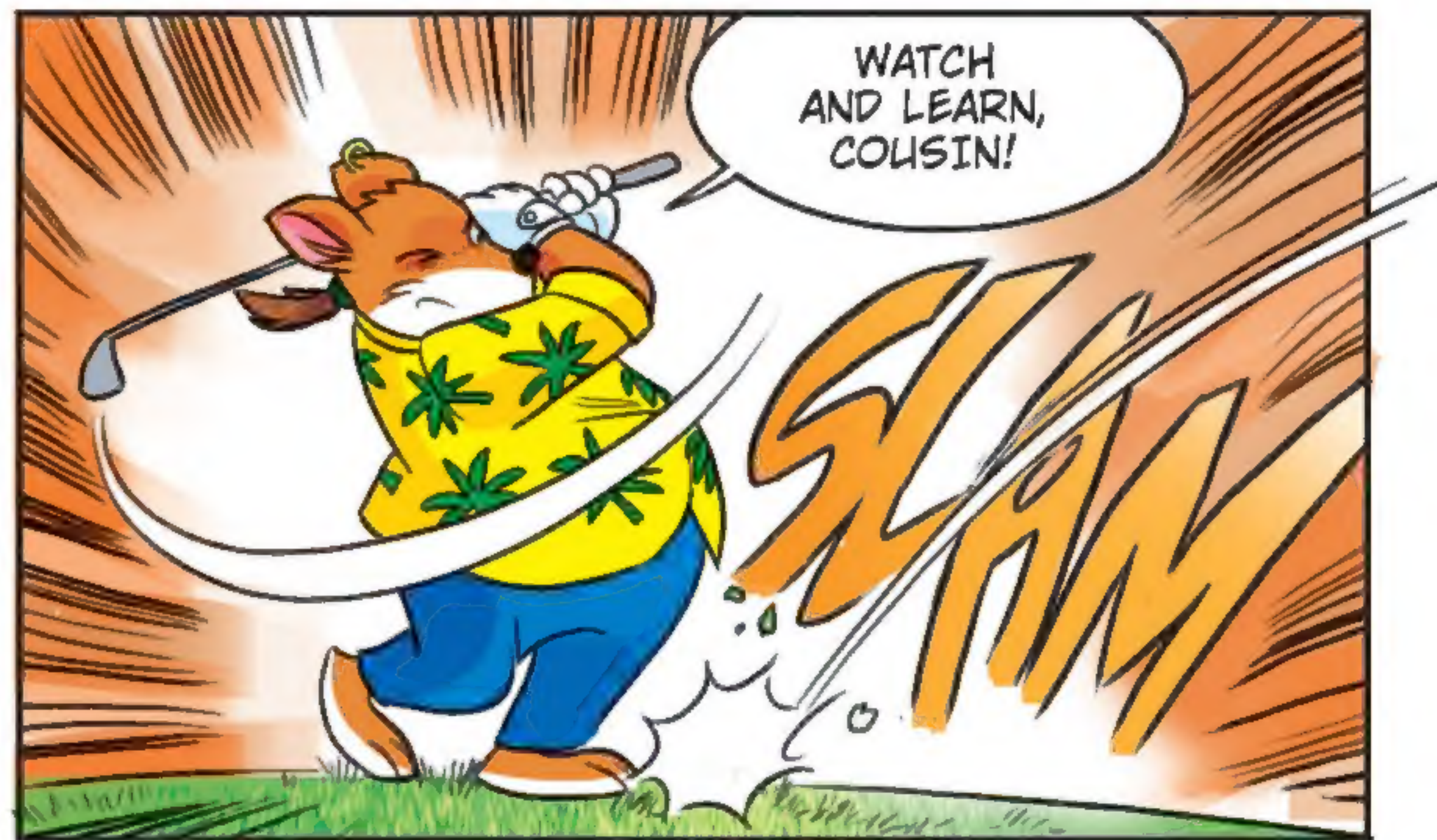
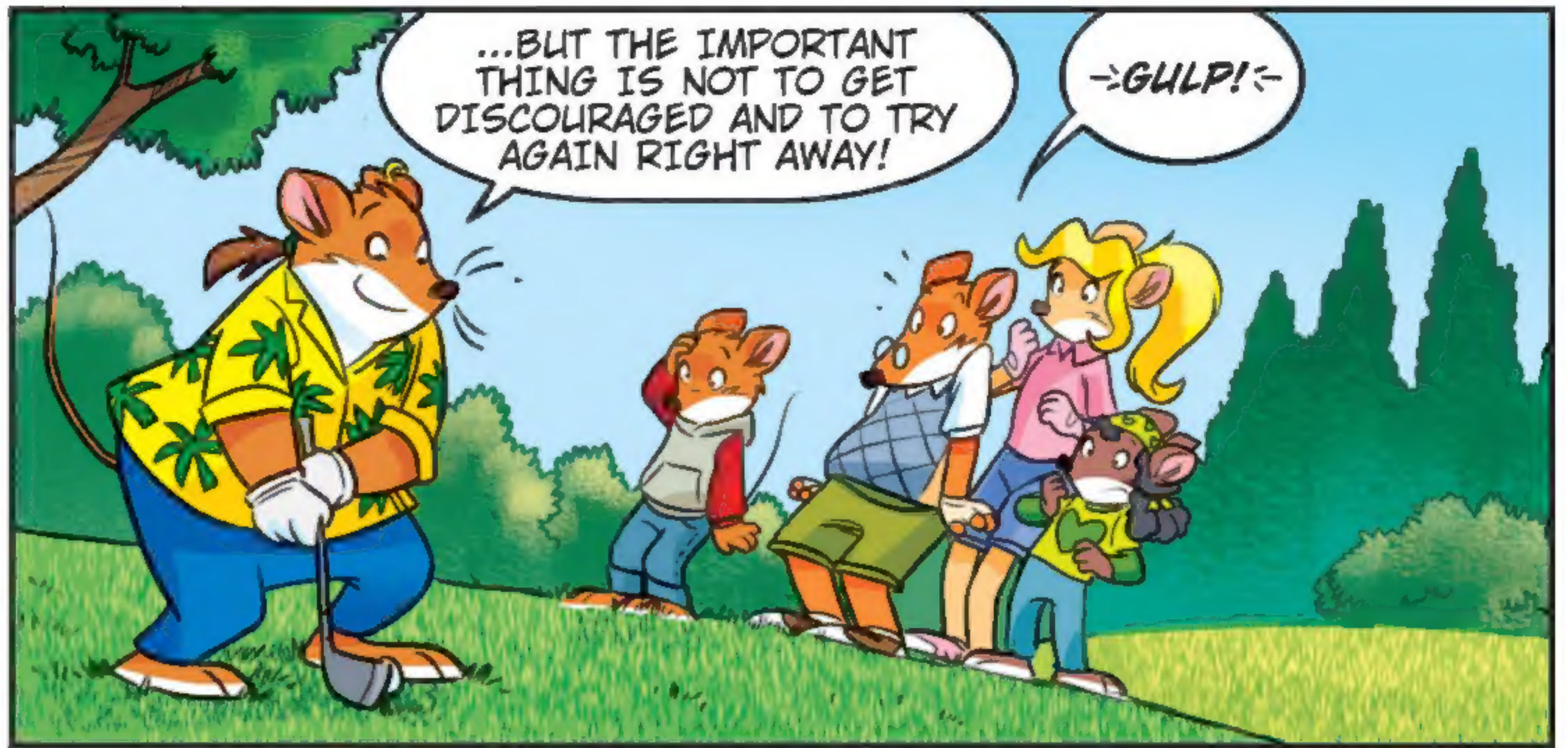
...WITH MY NEPHEW BENJAMIN, MY FRIEND PETUNIA, AND HER NEICE BUGSY WUGSY.

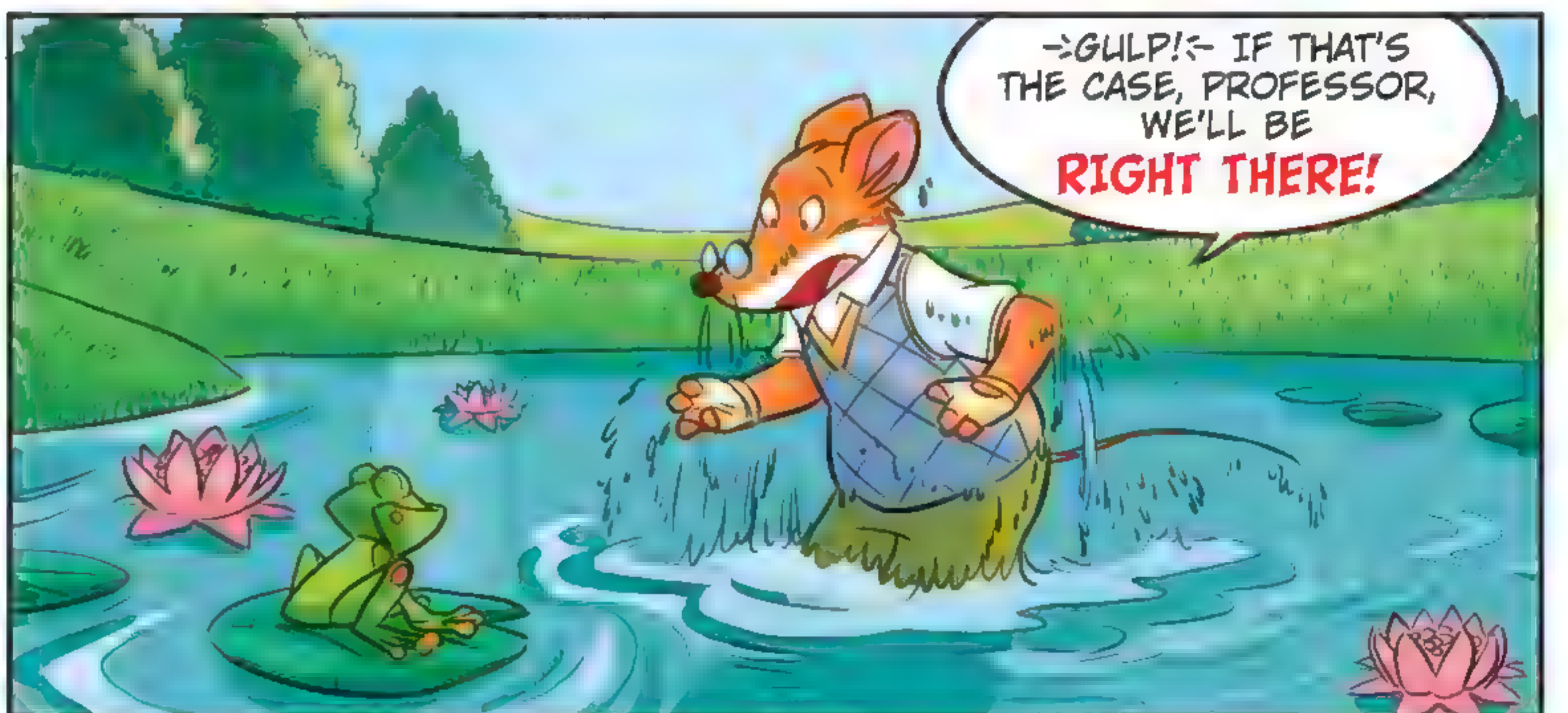
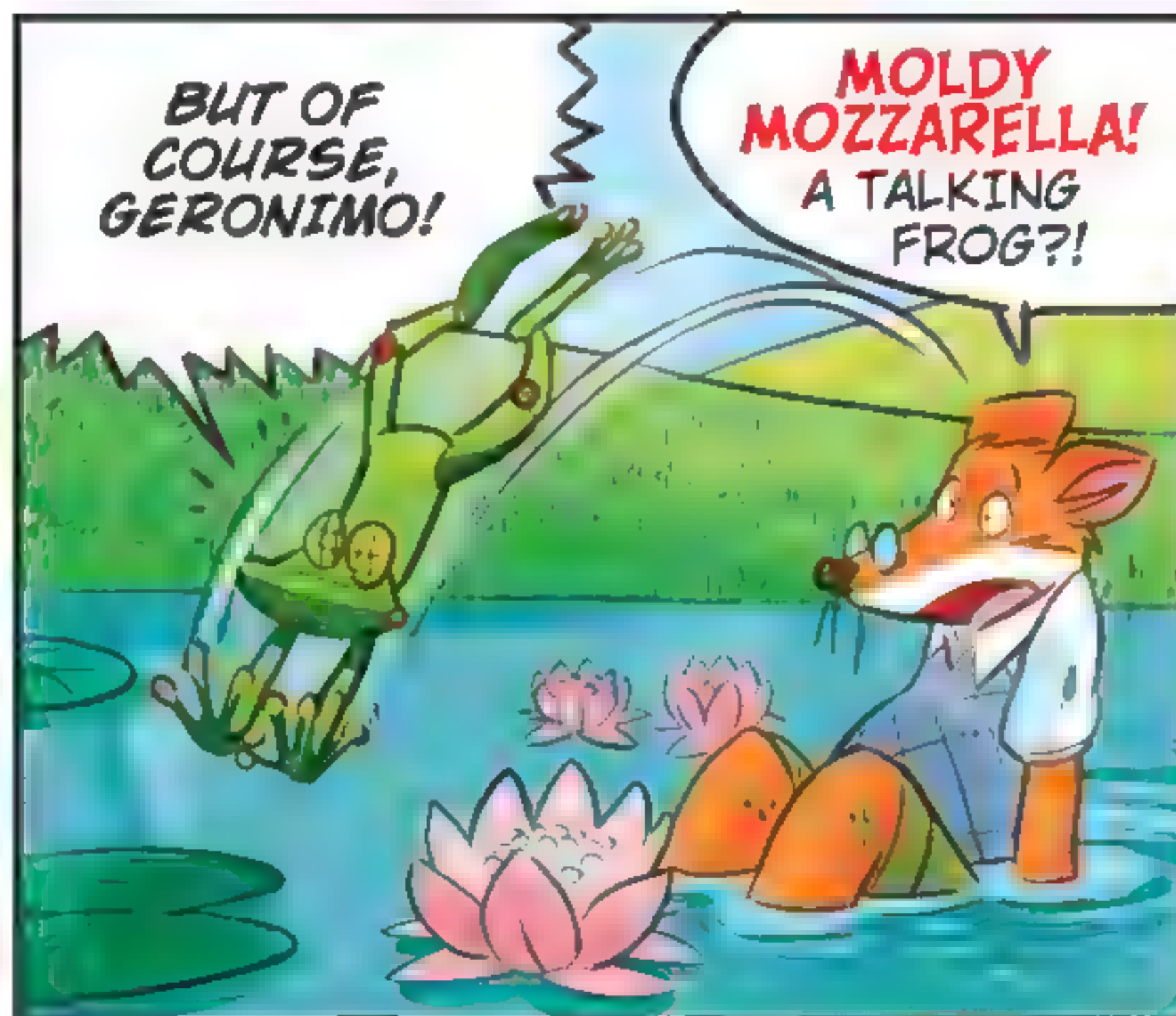


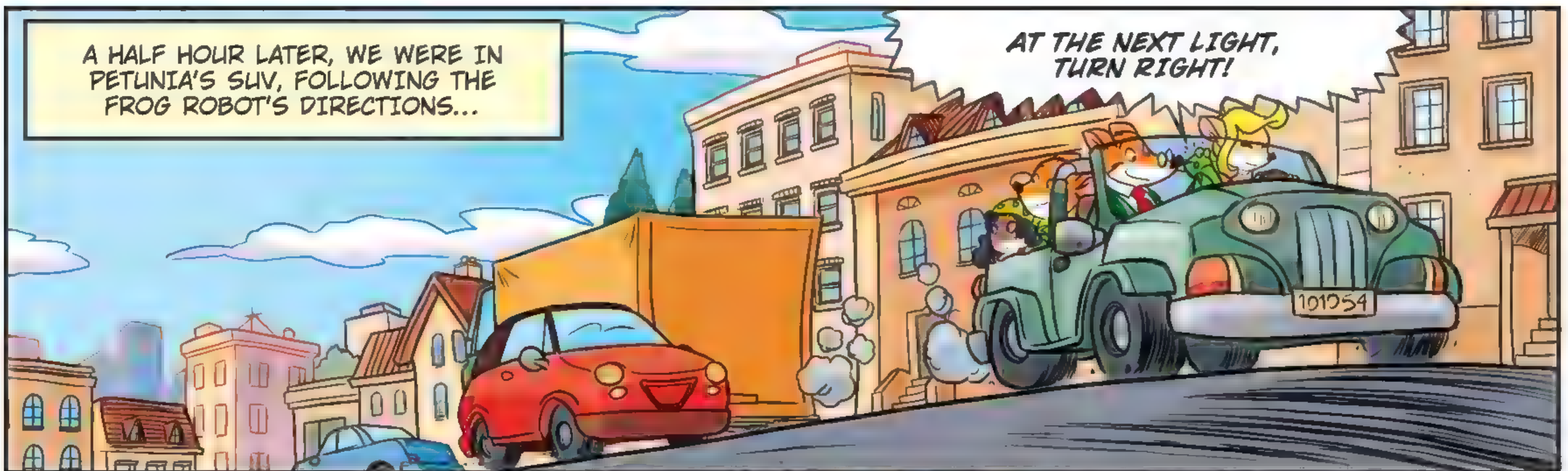












A HALF HOUR LATER, WE WERE IN PETUNIA'S SUV, FOLLOWING THE FROG ROBOT'S DIRECTIONS...

AT THE NEXT LIGHT, TURN RIGHT!

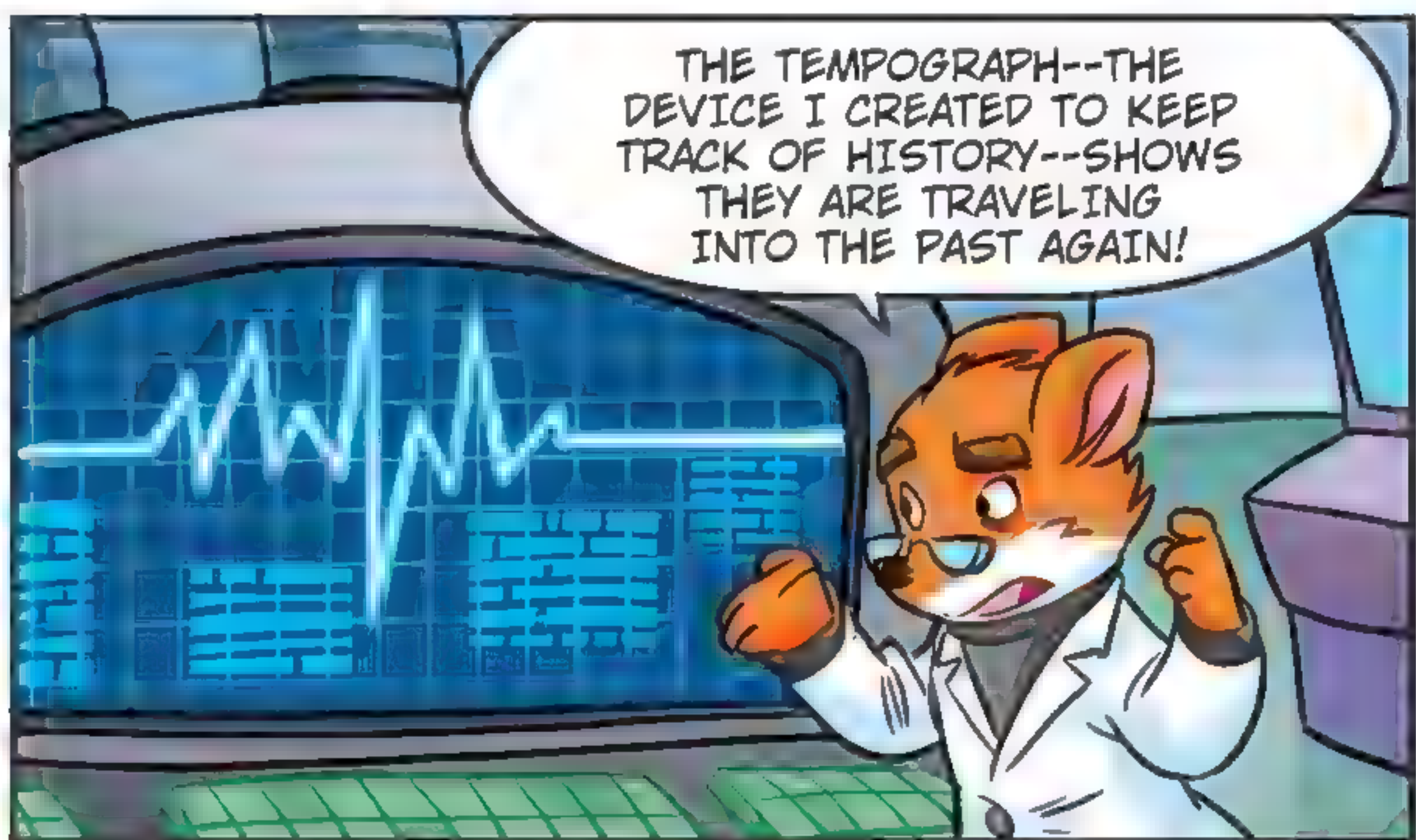


...WHICH QUICKLY TOOK US TO PROF. VON VOLT'S SECRET LAB!

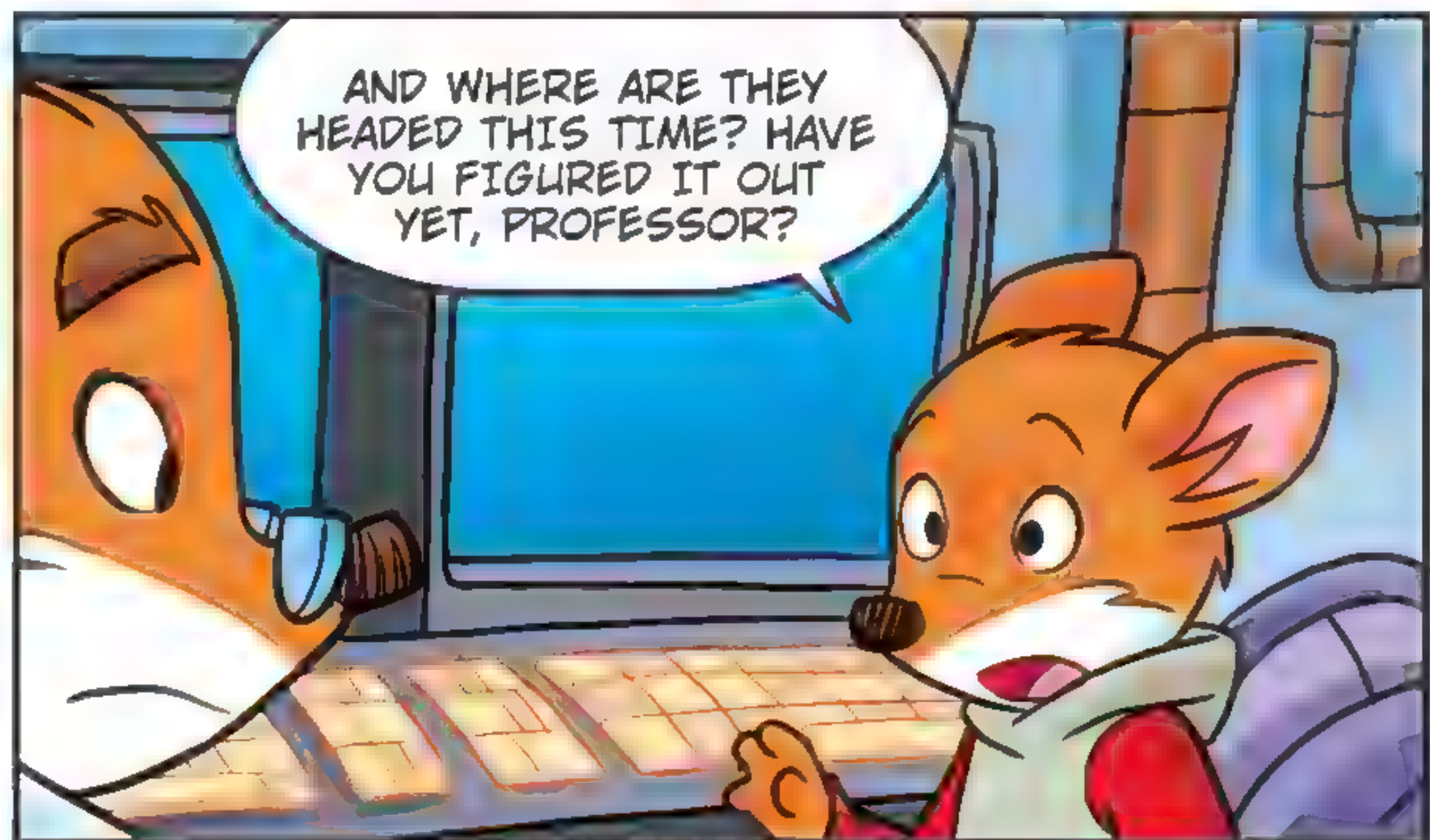
HELLO, PROFESSOR! TELL US EVERYTHING!

ARE THE **PIRATE CATS** BEHIND THIS?

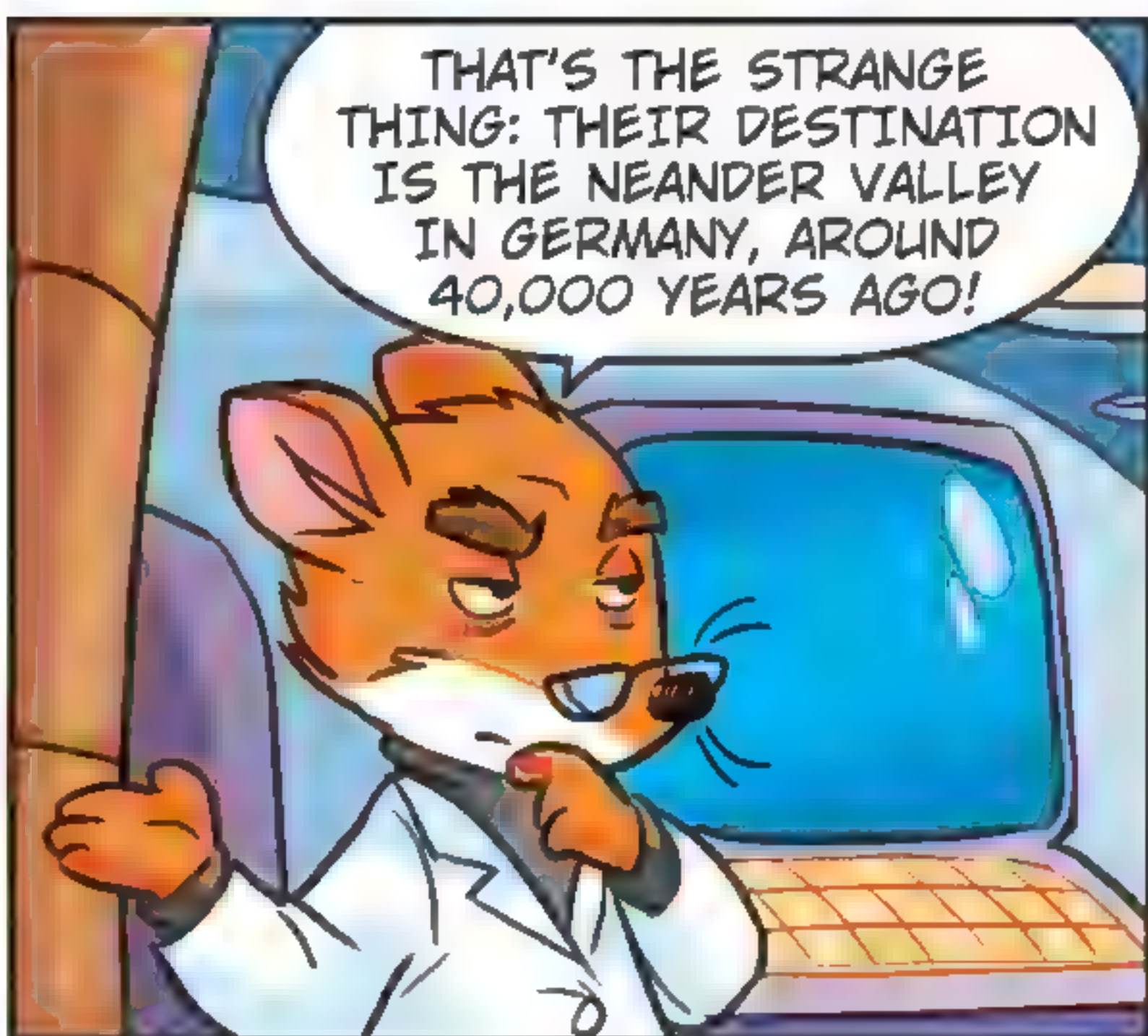
UNFORTUNATELY, YES, GERONIMO. YOU GUESSED RIGHT!



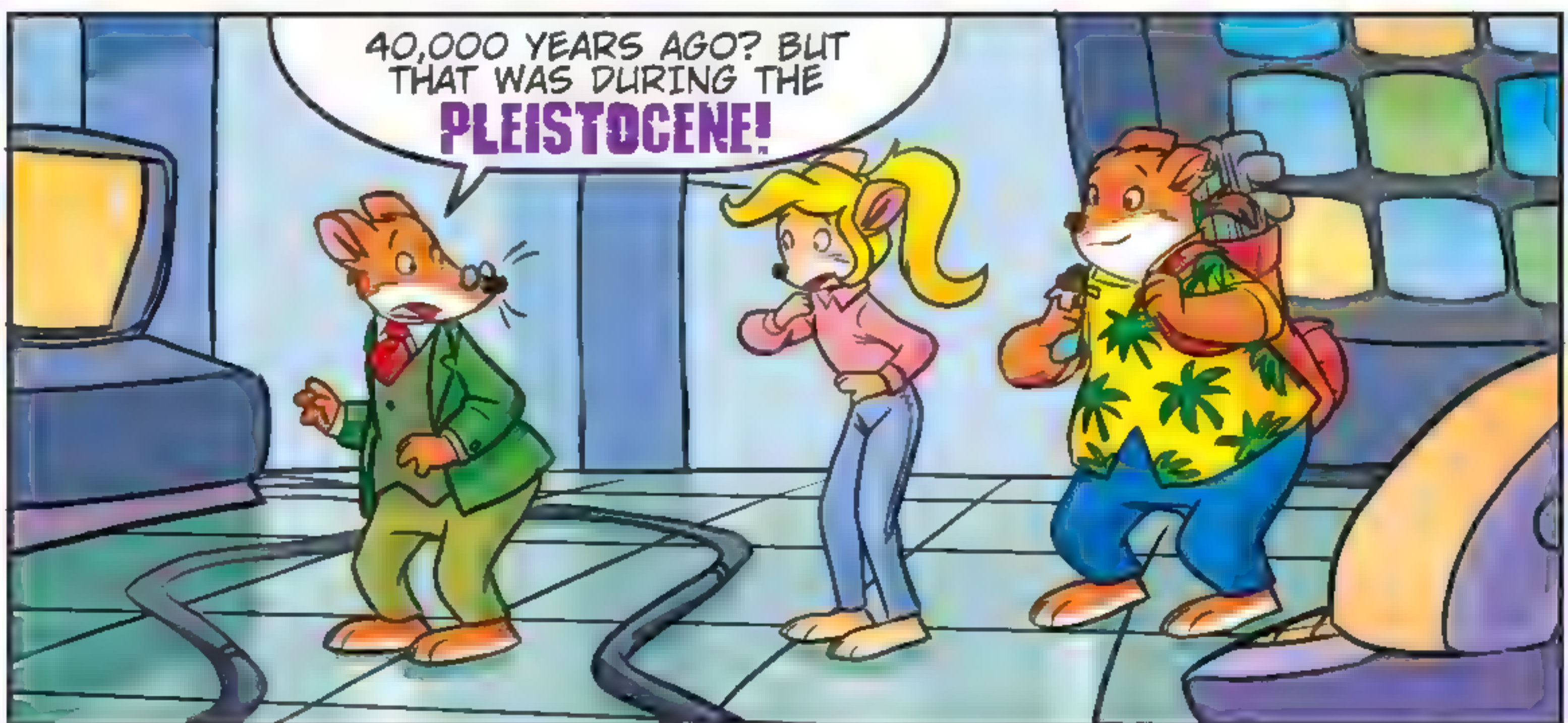
THE TEMPOGRAPH--THE DEVICE I CREATED TO KEEP TRACK OF HISTORY--SHOWS THEY ARE TRAVELING INTO THE PAST AGAIN!



AND WHERE ARE THEY HEADED THIS TIME? HAVE YOU FIGURED IT OUT YET, PROFESSOR?



THAT'S THE STRANGE THING: THEIR DESTINATION IS THE NEANDER VALLEY IN GERMANY, AROUND 40,000 YEARS AGO!



40,000 YEARS AGO? BUT THAT WAS DURING THE **PLEISTOCENE!**

PLEISTOCENE

IN THIS GEOLOGICAL ERA (1,800,000-11,000 YEARS AGO) THE EARTH LOOKED A LOT DIFFERENT FROM TODAY.

AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE PLEISTOCENE WAS CHARACTERIZED BY THE CLIMATE CONSTANTLY GETTING COLDER, WHICH CAUSED THE NORTH POLE ICE SHEET AND GLACIERS FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO INVADE MOST OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE. THIS PHENOMENON IS KNOWN AS GLACIATION AND WAS THE START OF THE ICE AGE. THE AREAS SHELTERED FROM ICE, LIKE THE NEANDER VALLEY (NEANDERTHAL) IN NORTHERN GERMANY, WERE FILLED WITH GRASSLANDS AND FORESTS IN WHICH MANY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS (DEER, BEAR, WOLVES, MARMOTS, AND MAMMOTHS) AND THE ANCESTORS OF MODERN HUMANS LIVED.



IF I'M NOT WRONG, THERE WEREN'T ANY CITIES IN THIS ERA, ONLY FORESTS!

YES, THAT'S RIGHT! AND WIDE GRASSLANDS, TOO!



HMM...A PERFECT PLACE TO PLAY GOLF! HOW NICE!

HMPH, TRAP...HOW CAN YOU THINK OF PLAYING RIGHT NOW?



BETTER YET, DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT THE PIRATE CATS' GOAL COULD BE?

NO, NO IDEA AT ALL!



THE AREA BORDERED BY THE **ICE** SHEET WAS PRACTICALLY UNINHABITED, EXCEPT FOR...EARLY NEANDERTHALS!



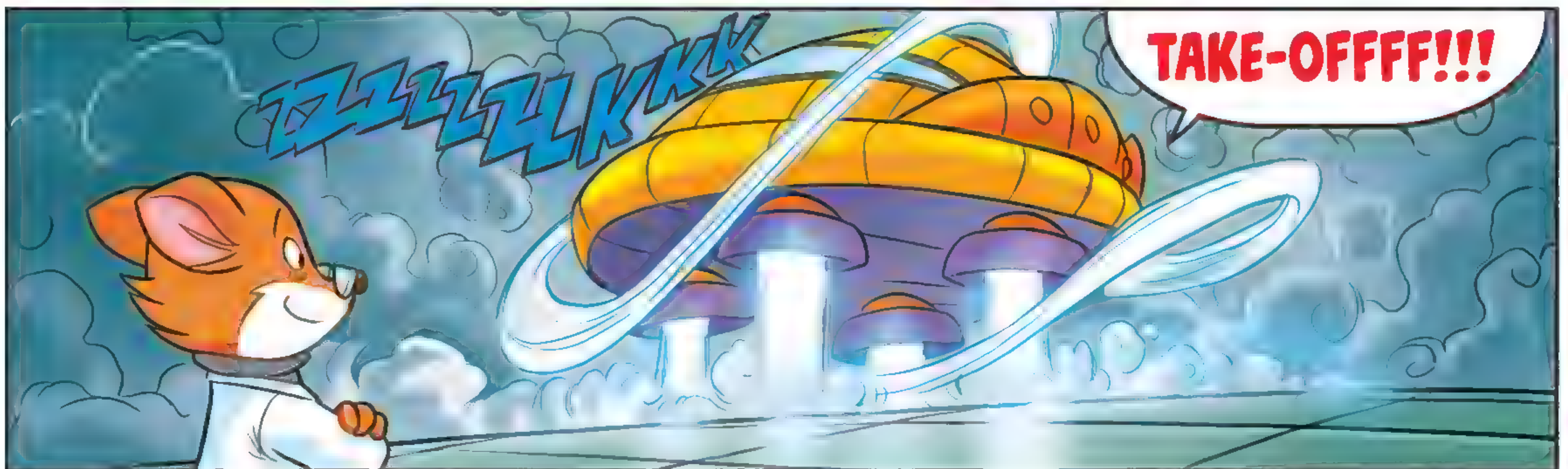
EARLY NEANDERTHALS

LIVED BETWEEN 100,000 AND 30,000 YEARS AGO. THEIR NAME COMES FROM THE FACT THAT IN 1856, SOME OF THEIR REMAINS WERE FOUND IN A CAVE IN THE NEANDER VALLEY. COMPARED TO MODERN HUMANS (HOMO SAPIENS), NEANDERTHALS WERE SHORTER AND HAD SHORTER ARMS AND LEGS. THEIR TYPICAL FACIAL FEATURES WERE A LOW, FLAT SKULL, PRONOUNCED CHEEBONES, AND A RECEDING CHIN.



WHATEVER THOSE CRUMMY CATS MAY HAVE IN MIND, WE'VE GOT TO LEAVE RIGHT AWAY!





MEANWHILE, THE PIRATE CATS HAD ARRIVED IN THE NEANDER VALLEY IN THE YEAR 37993 BC.

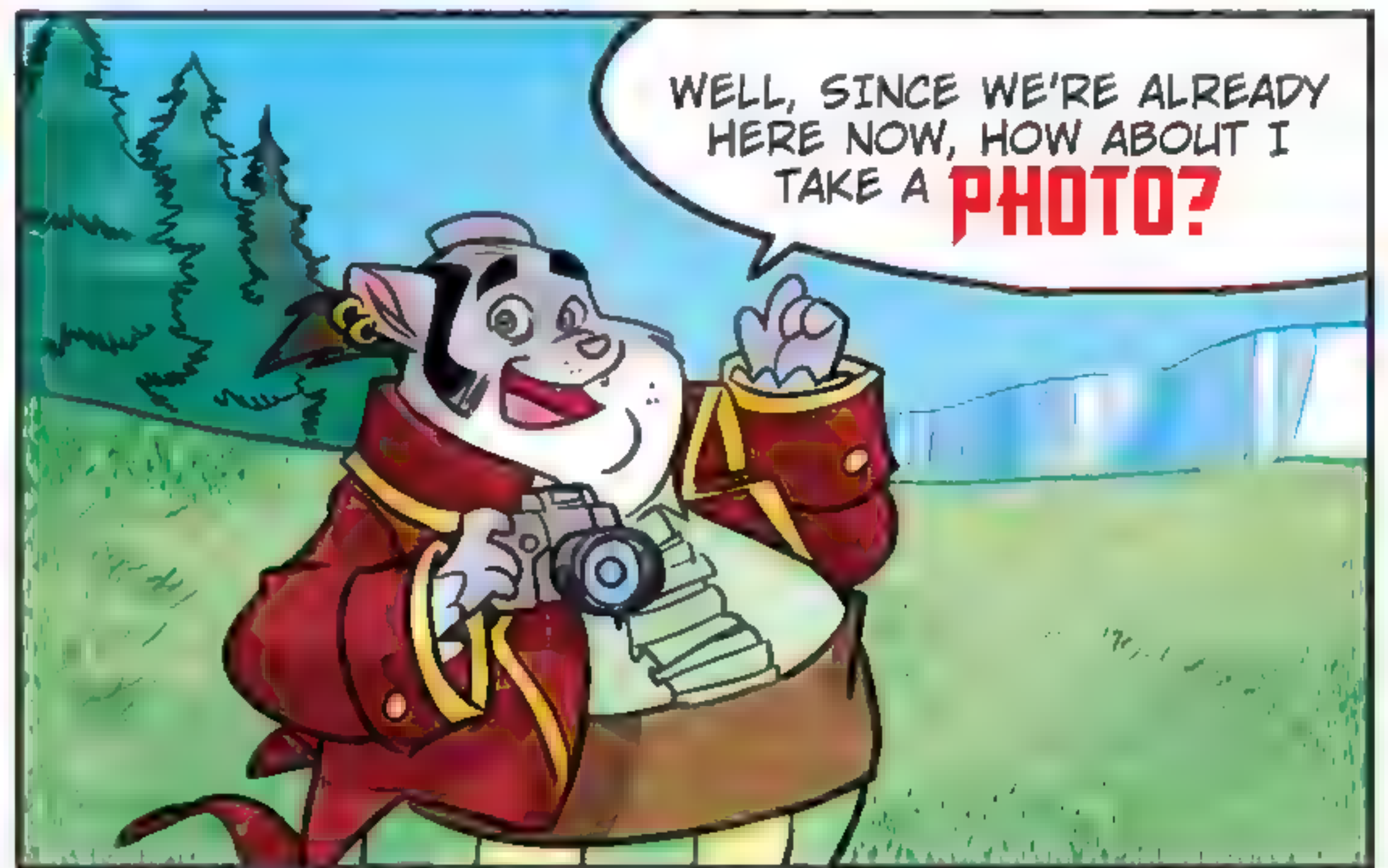
THIS TIME,
YOU'VE REALLY
MESSED UP,
BONZO!

B-BUT
TERSILLA, LET
ME EXPLAIN!
I...UM...

THERE'S NOTHING
TO EXPLAIN! OUR
DESTINATION WAS
PARIS, IN FRANCE, IN
THE YEAR 1889...AND
LOOK WHERE YOU
BROUGHT US!

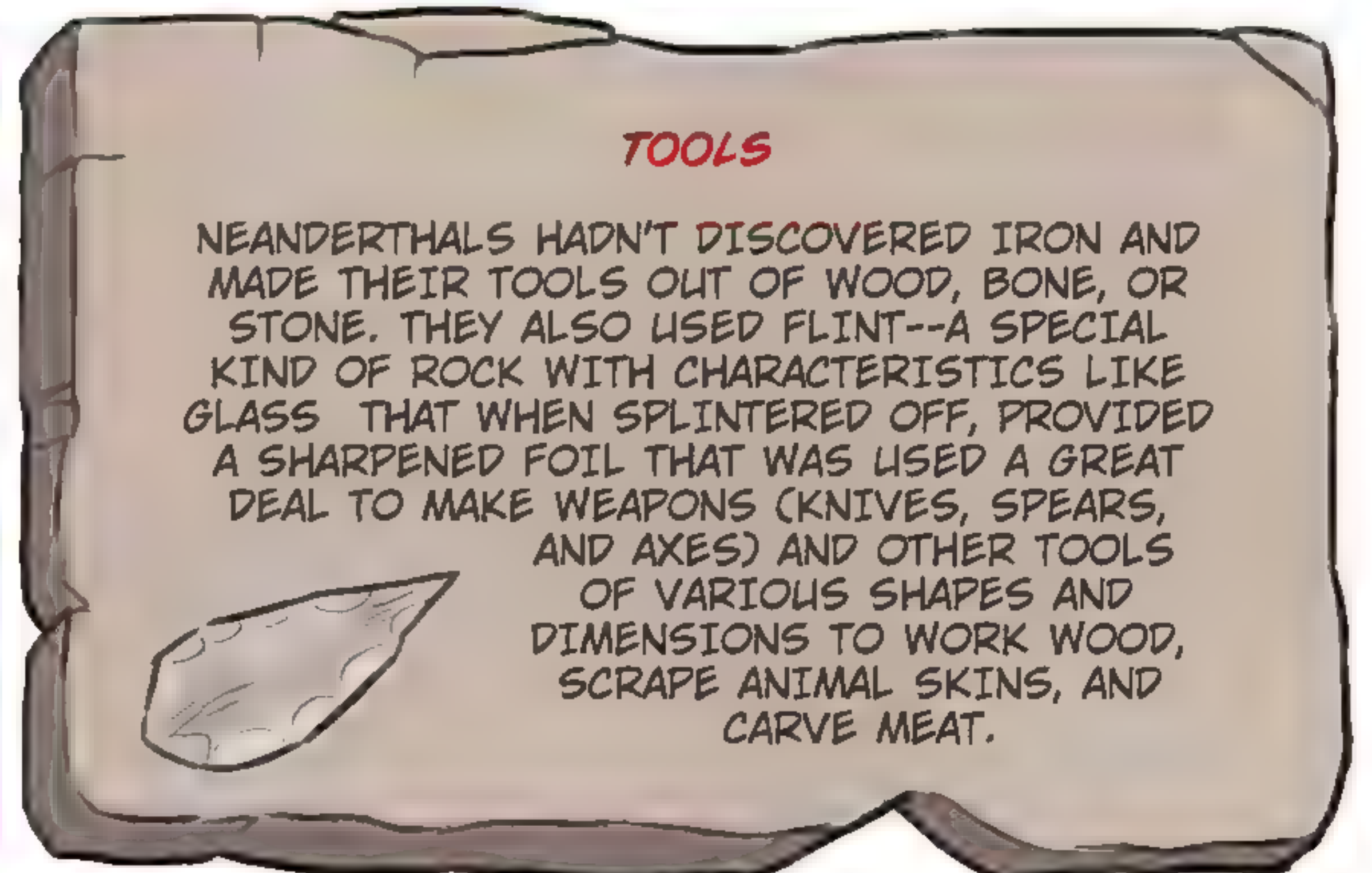
BUT I DIDN'T MEAN TO...I WAS TAKING
SOME SOUVENIR PHOTOS AND...I
HIT THE WRONG BUTTON!

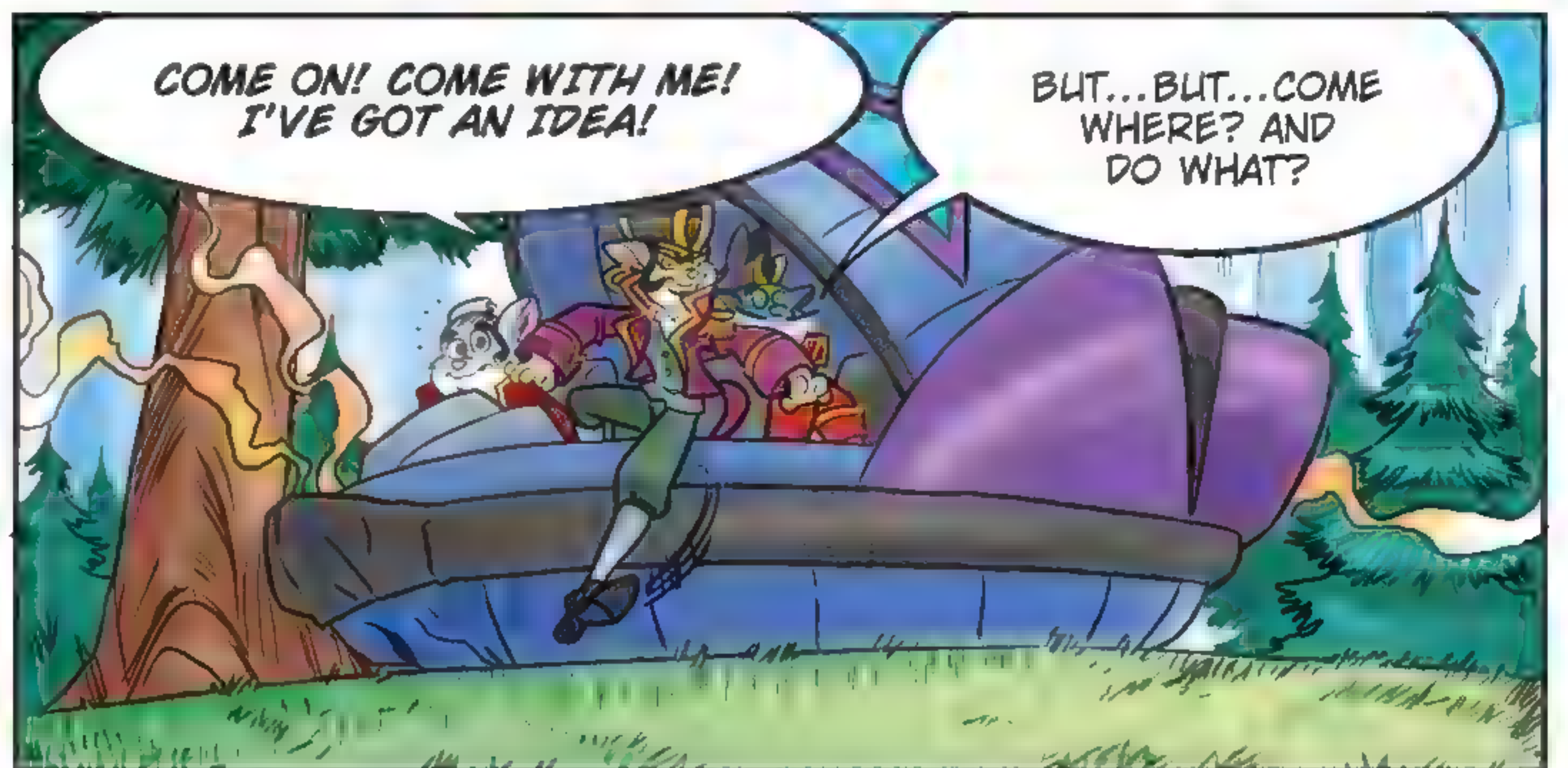
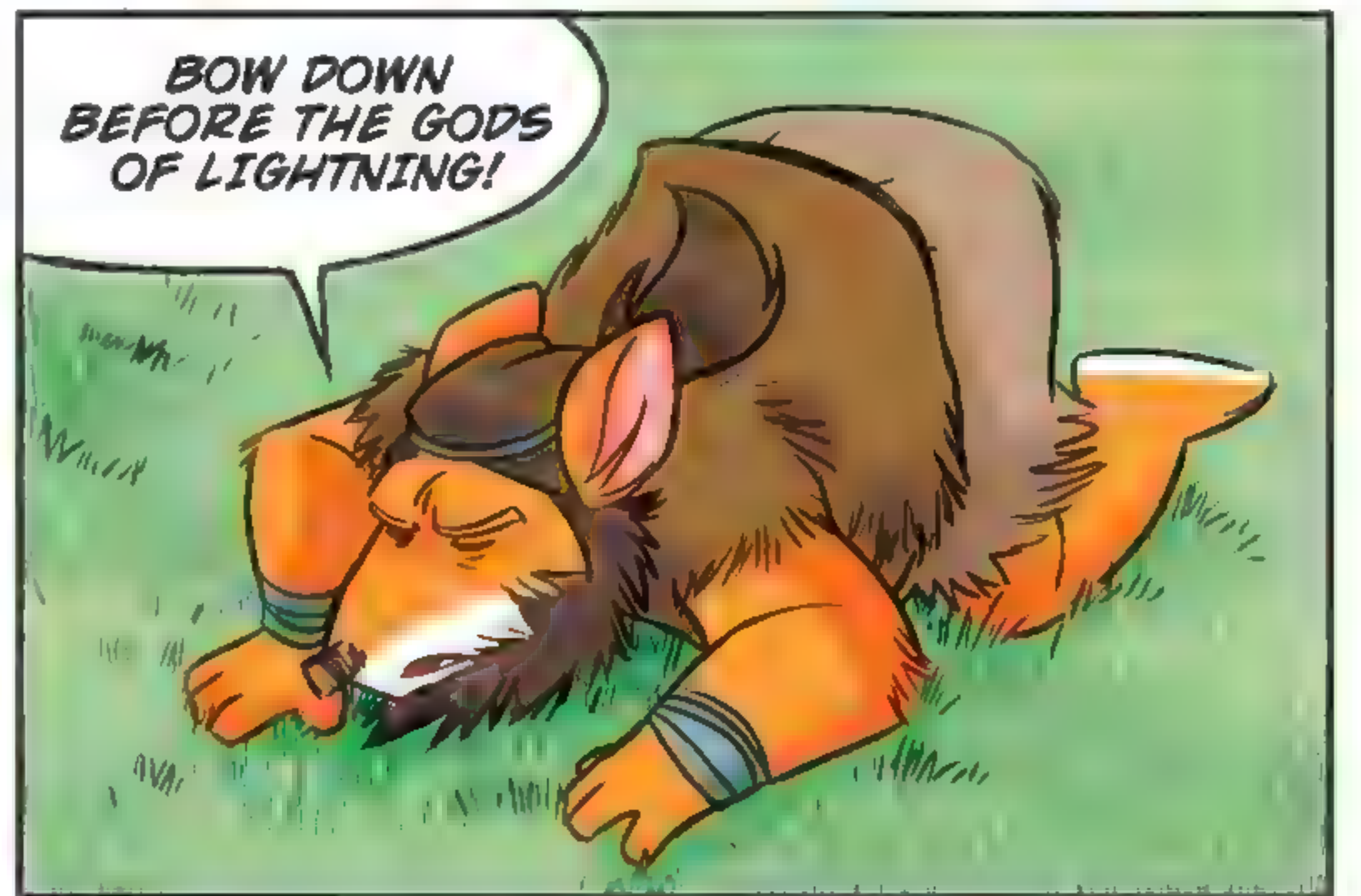
BONZO, YOU
ARE A REAL
IDIOT!

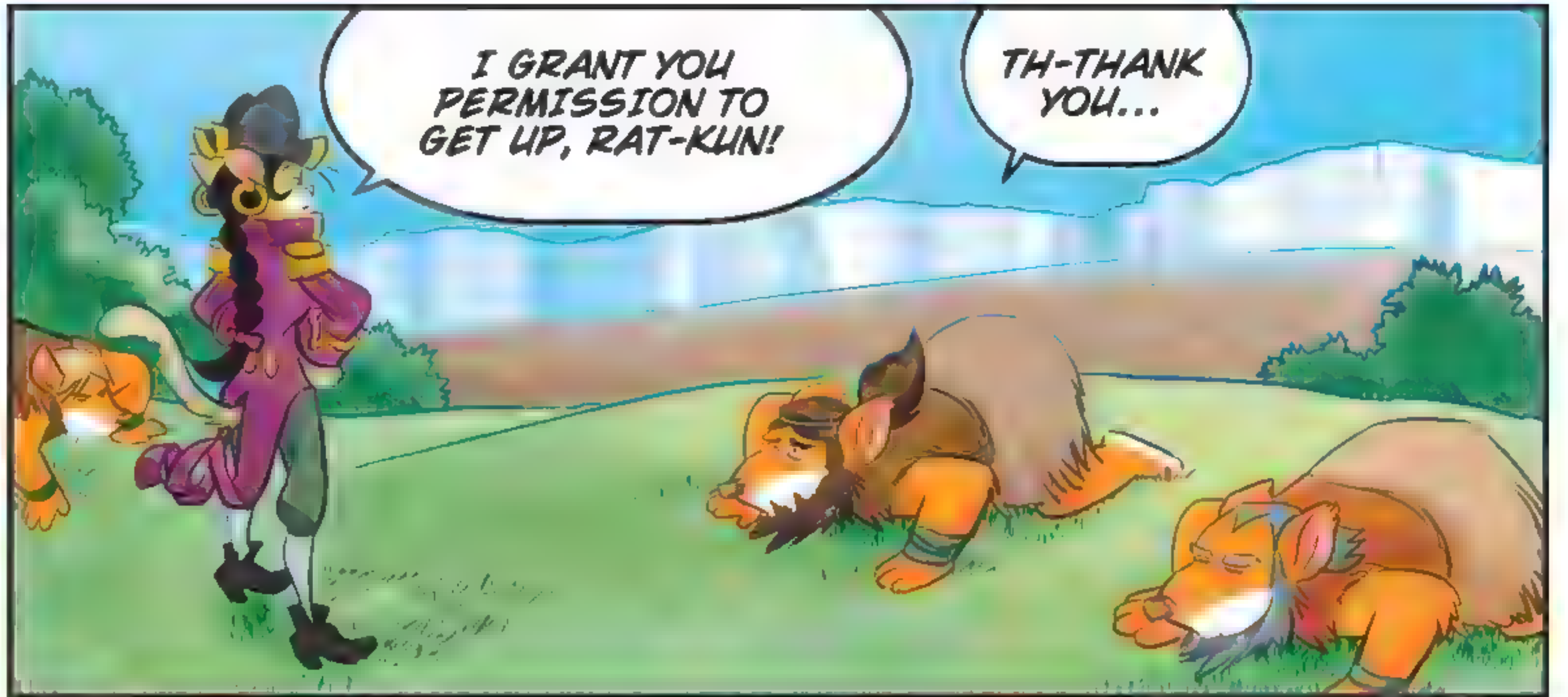


*PAIN IN THE NECK









THE MAMMOTH

THE MAMMOTH IS A SPECIES OF ELEPHANT THAT LIVED FROM ABOUT 5,000,000 TO 6,000 YEARS AGO IN EUROPE, AFRICA, AND NORTH AMERICA. COMPARED TO TODAY'S ELEPHANTS, MAMMOTHS HAD LONG, CURVED TUSKS AND THICK FUR ALL OVER THEIR BODIES. THEY AVERAGED AROUND 9.2 FEET TALL AND COULD REACH 14.7 FEET IN LENGTH. LIKE TODAY'S ELEPHANTS, MAMMOTHS WERE HERBIVORES.



IN THE PAST FEW DAYS, THE RODENTS OF MY TRIBE HAVE OFTEN HEARD **FEARSOME WAILS...**



"...THAT CAME FROM THE LARGE ICE SHEET. AND WHEN THEY APPROACHED IT, THEY SAW A HORRIBLE MONSTER!"



NOW WE'RE SO SCARED WE DON'T DARE VENTURE OVER THERE ANYMORE!

HMM...VERY INTERESTING...



DID YOU HEAR THAT? MAYBE OUR TRIP WASN'T A TOTAL WASTE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, TERSILLA?



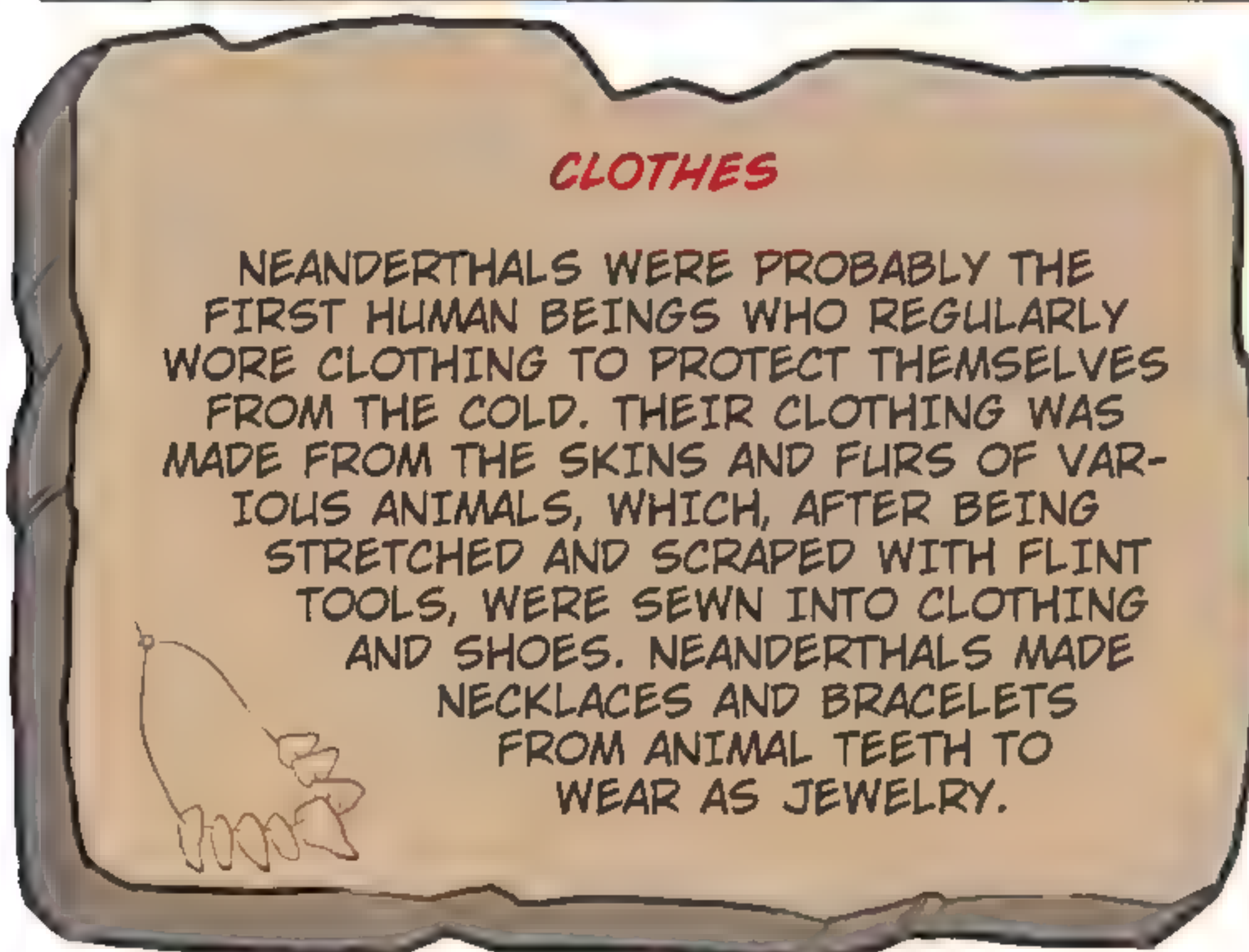
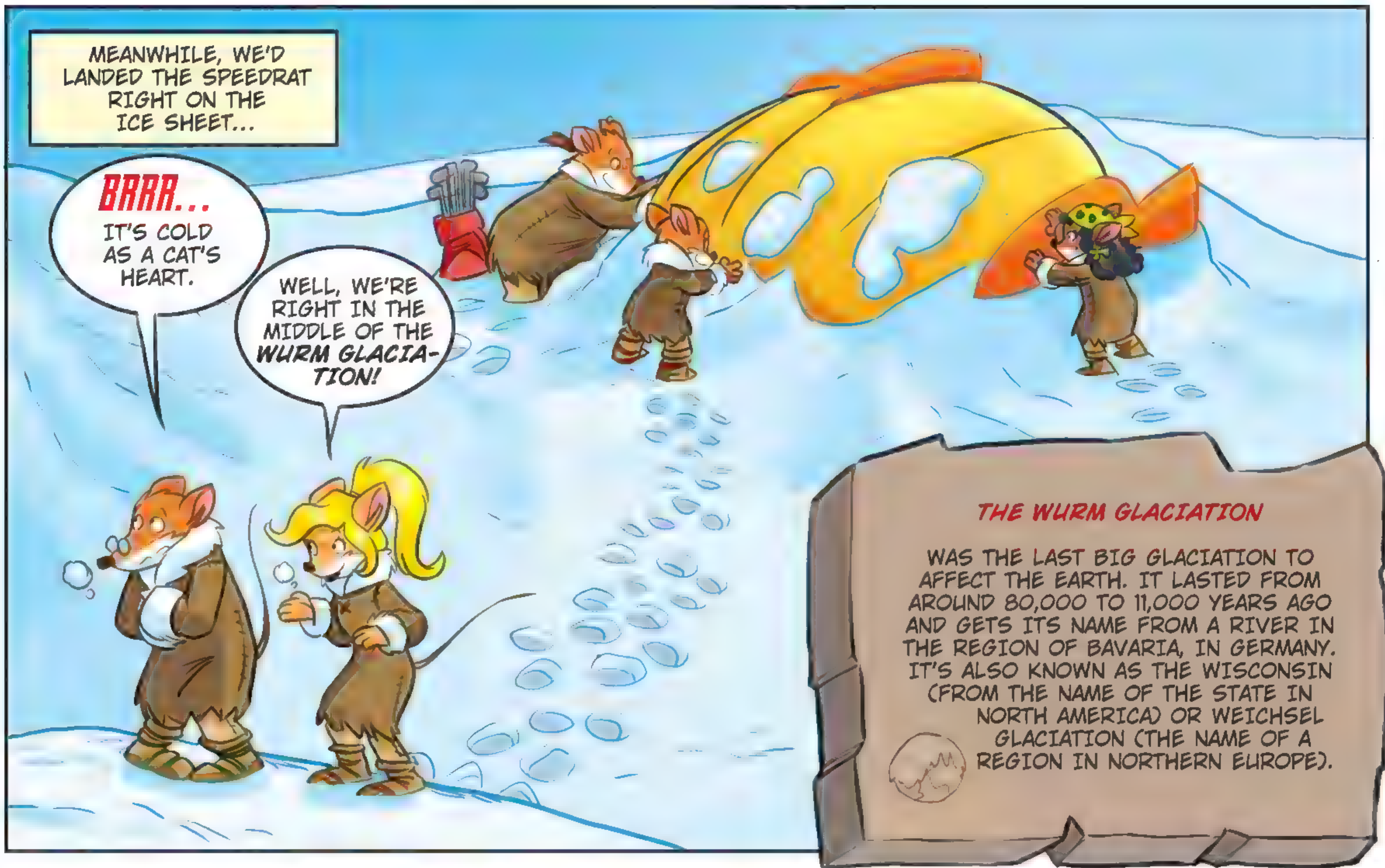
IF WE MANAGE TO CAPTURE THE ICE GIANT AND BRING IT BACK TO CATBURG WITH US, WE'LL BE FAMOUS!

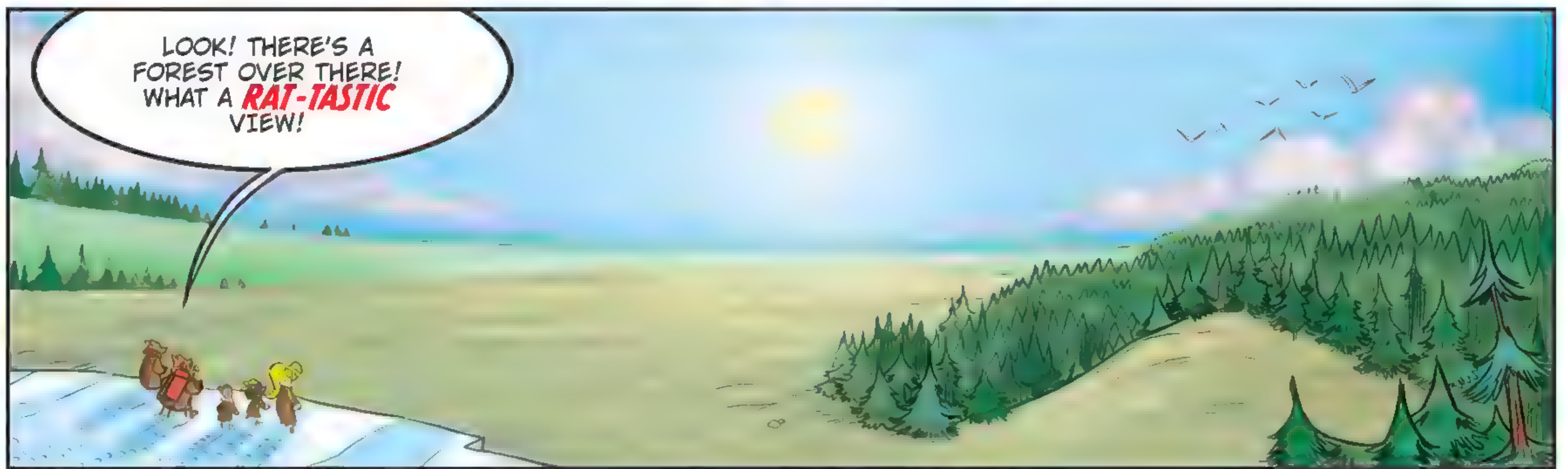


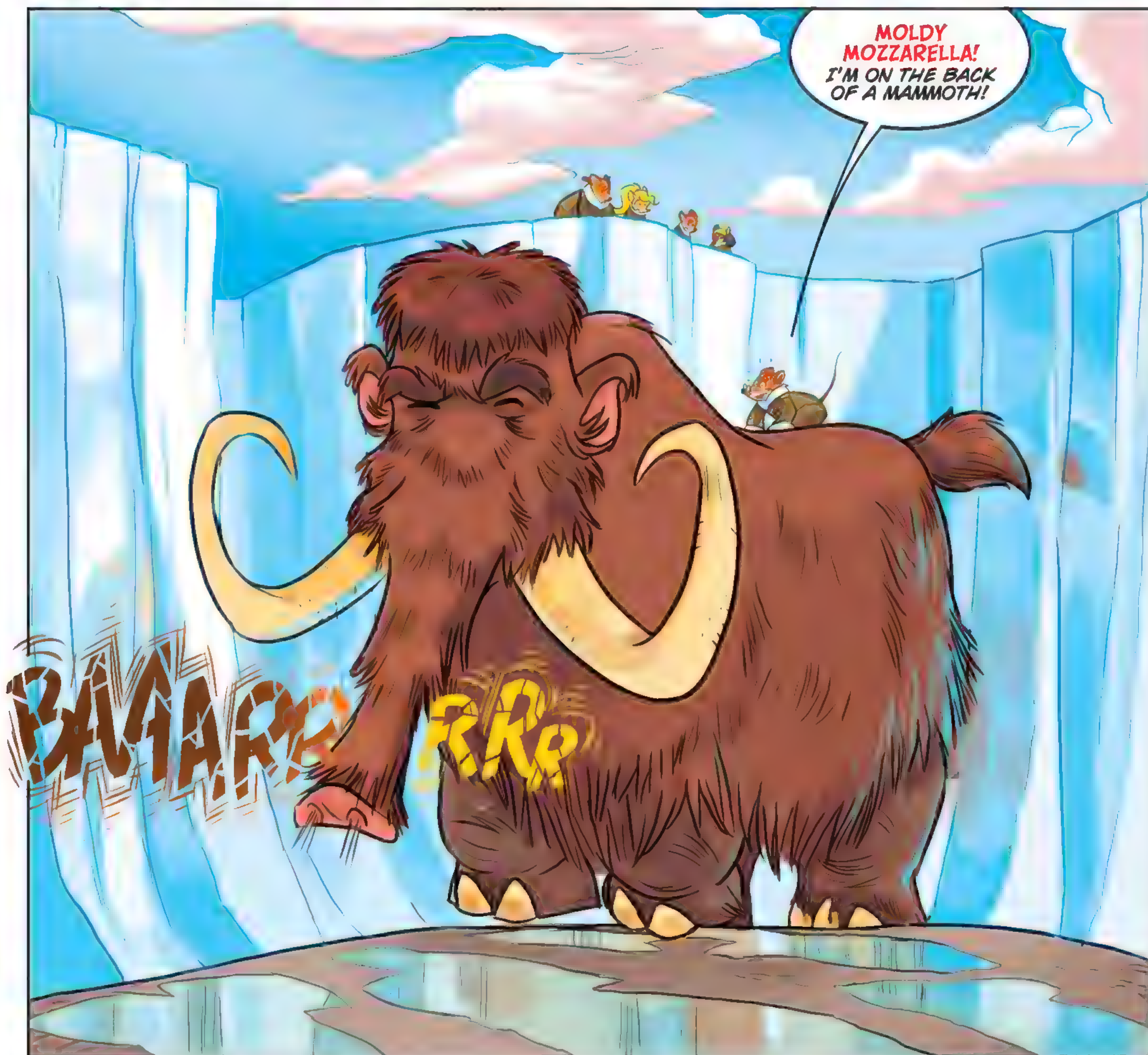
YOU WANT...TO CAPTURE THAT **monster???**



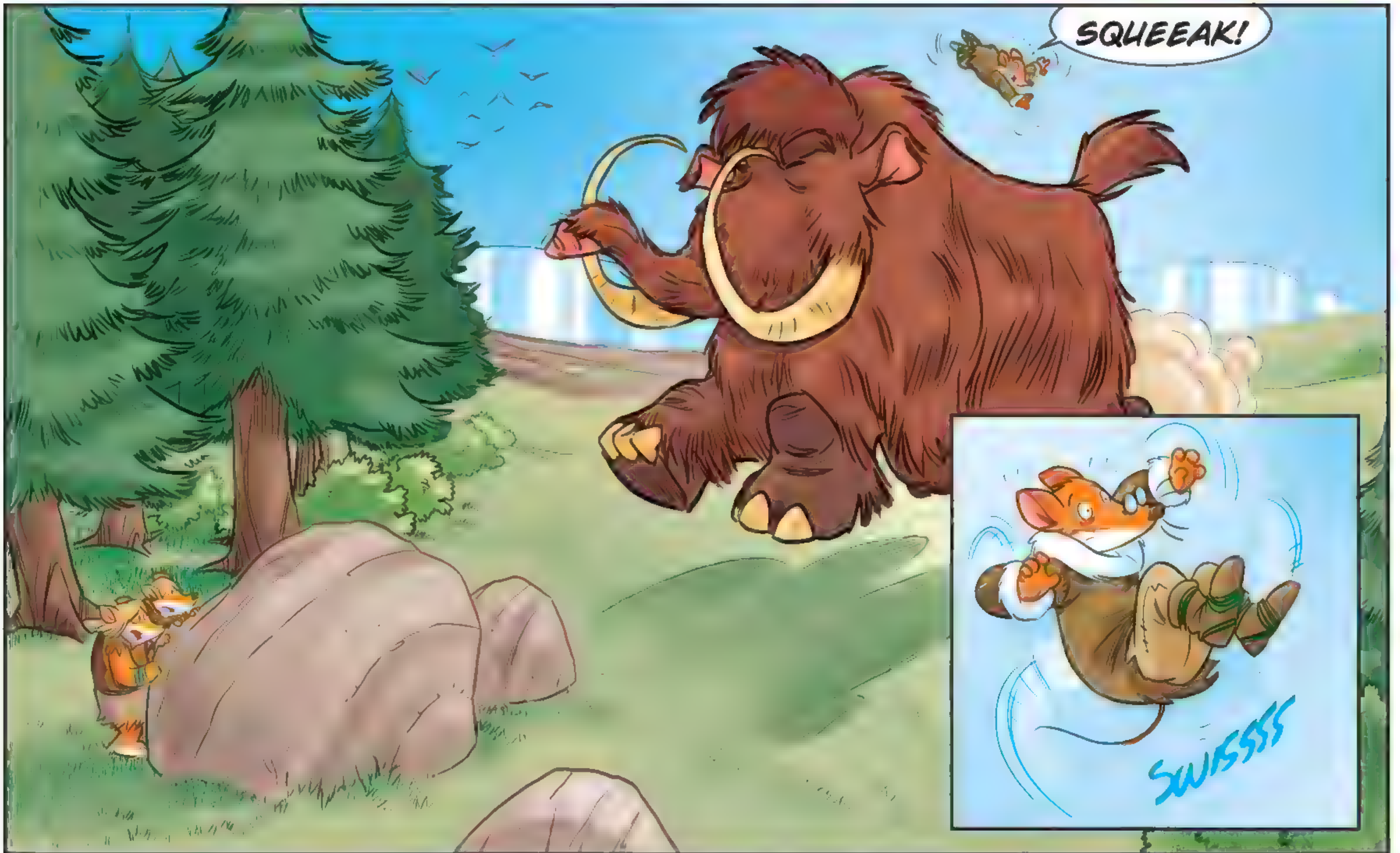


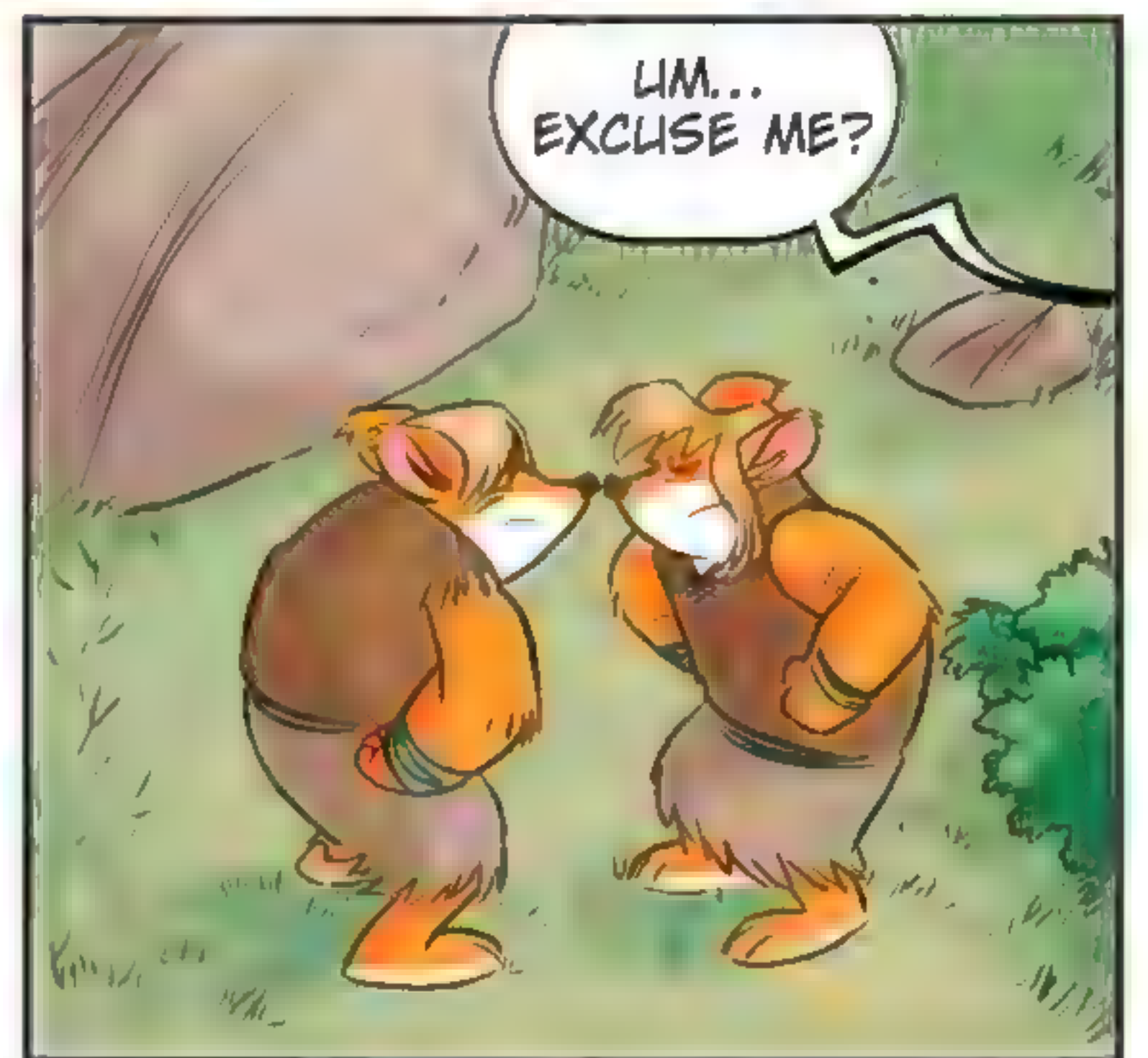
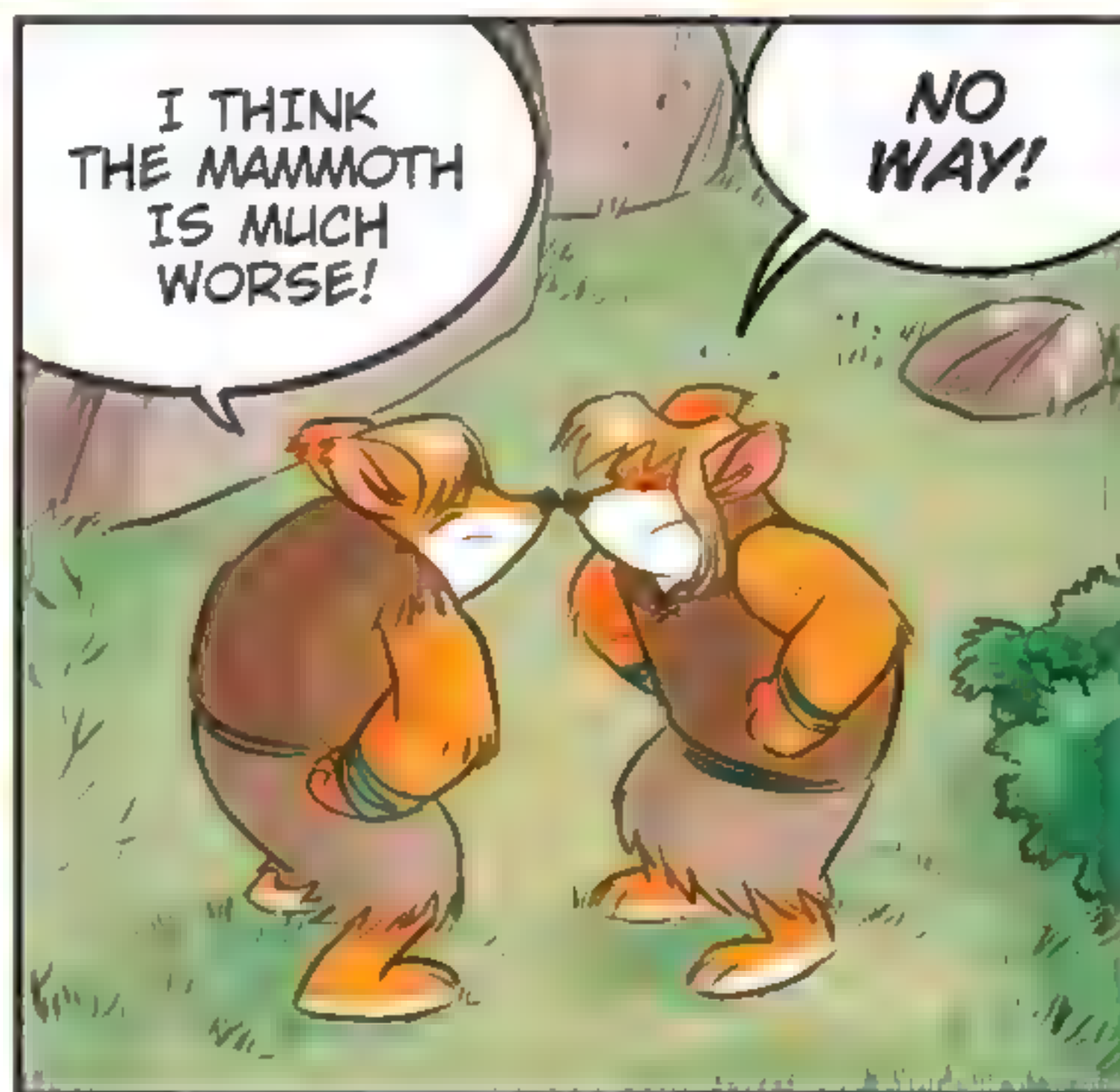


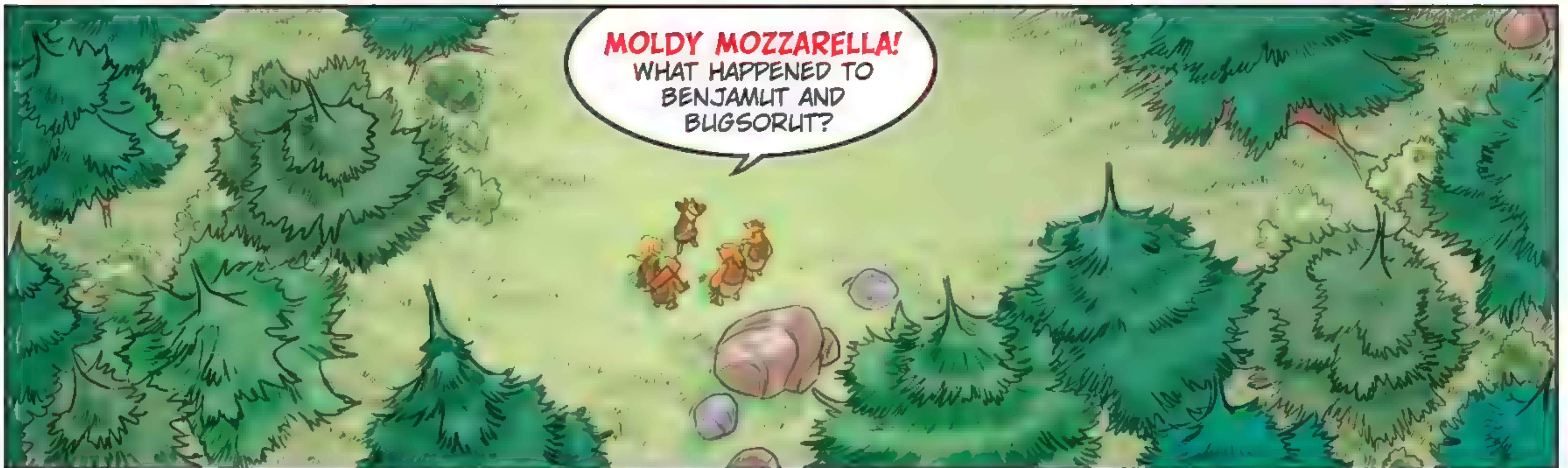








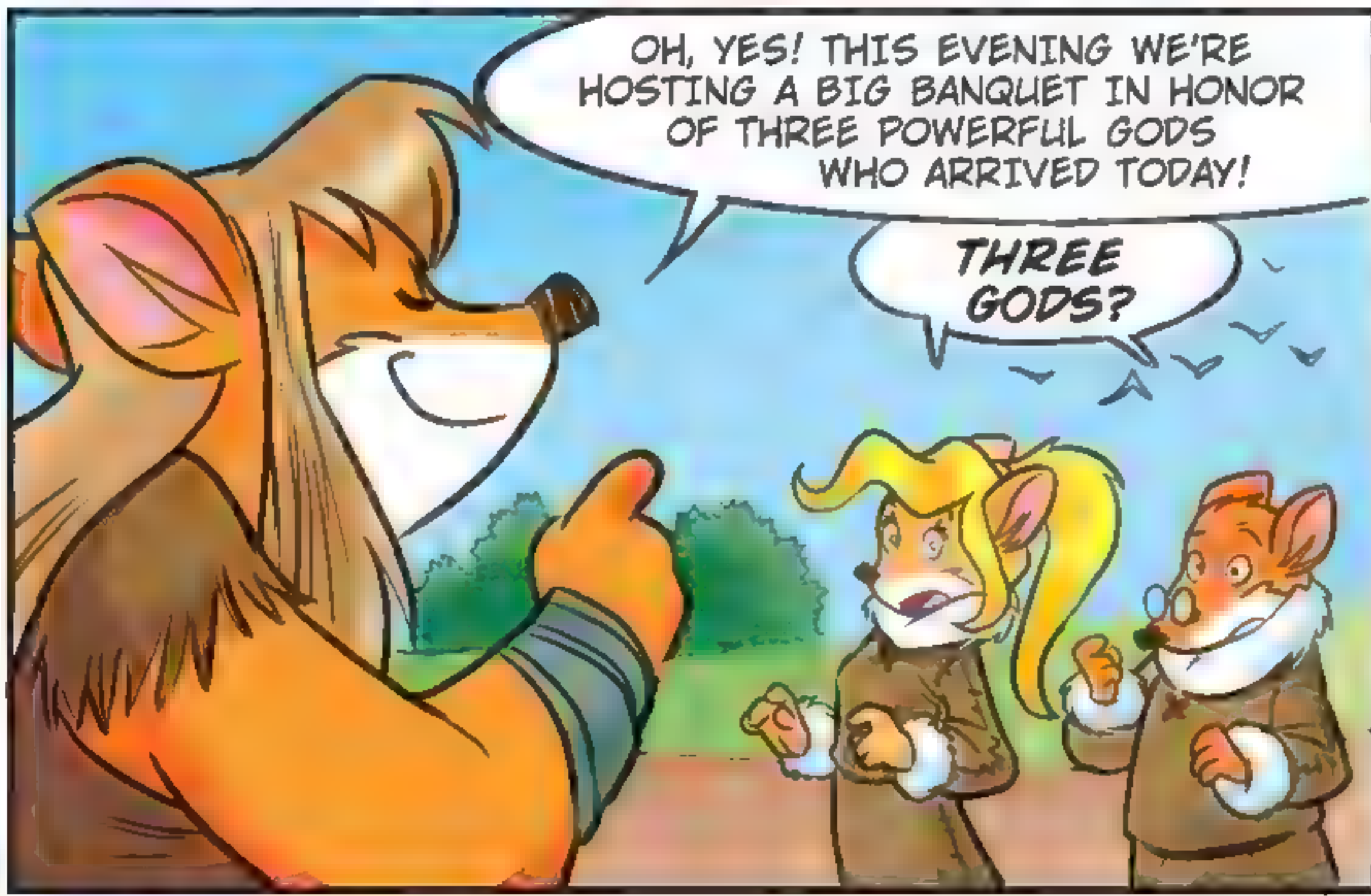
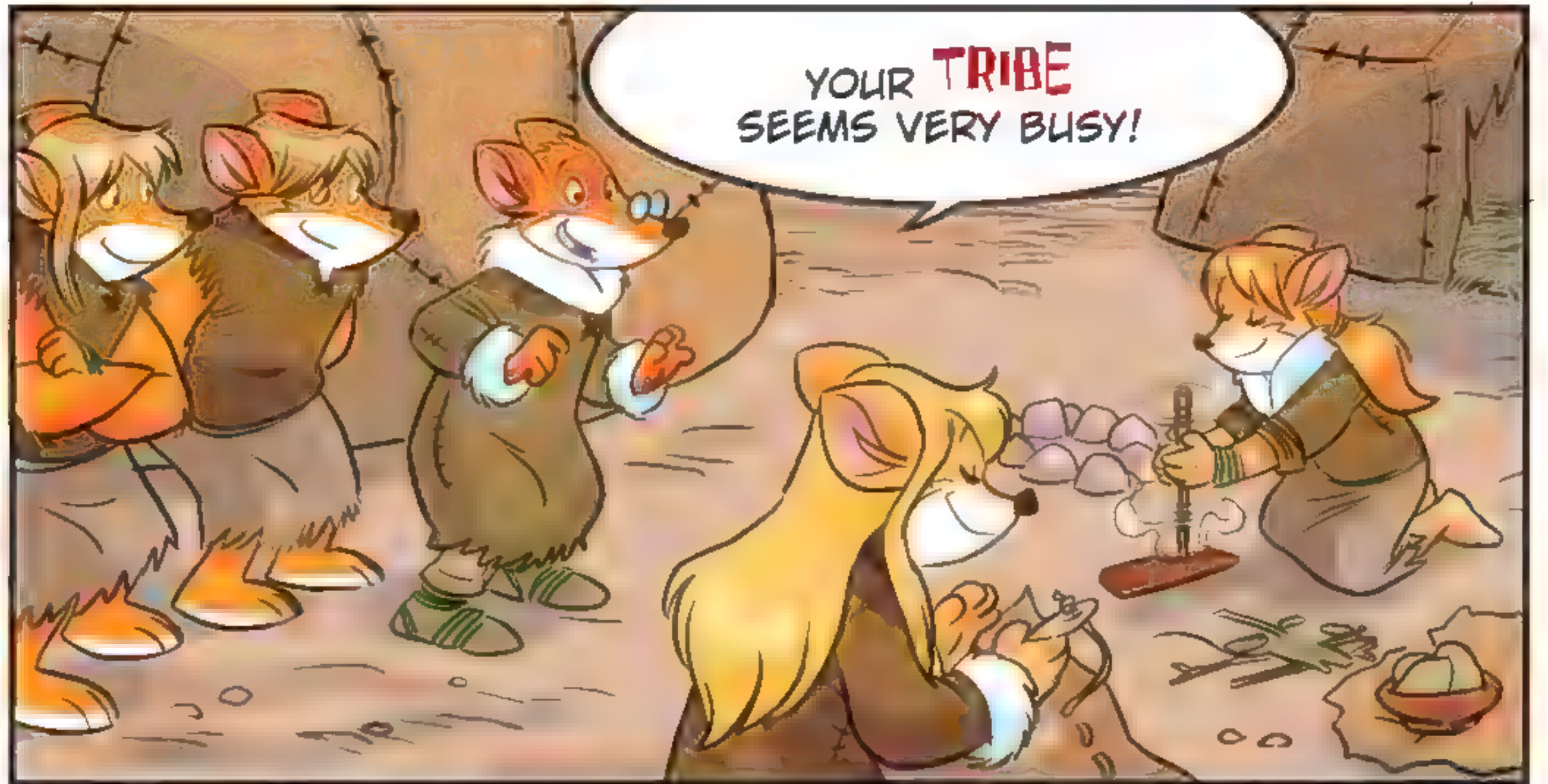


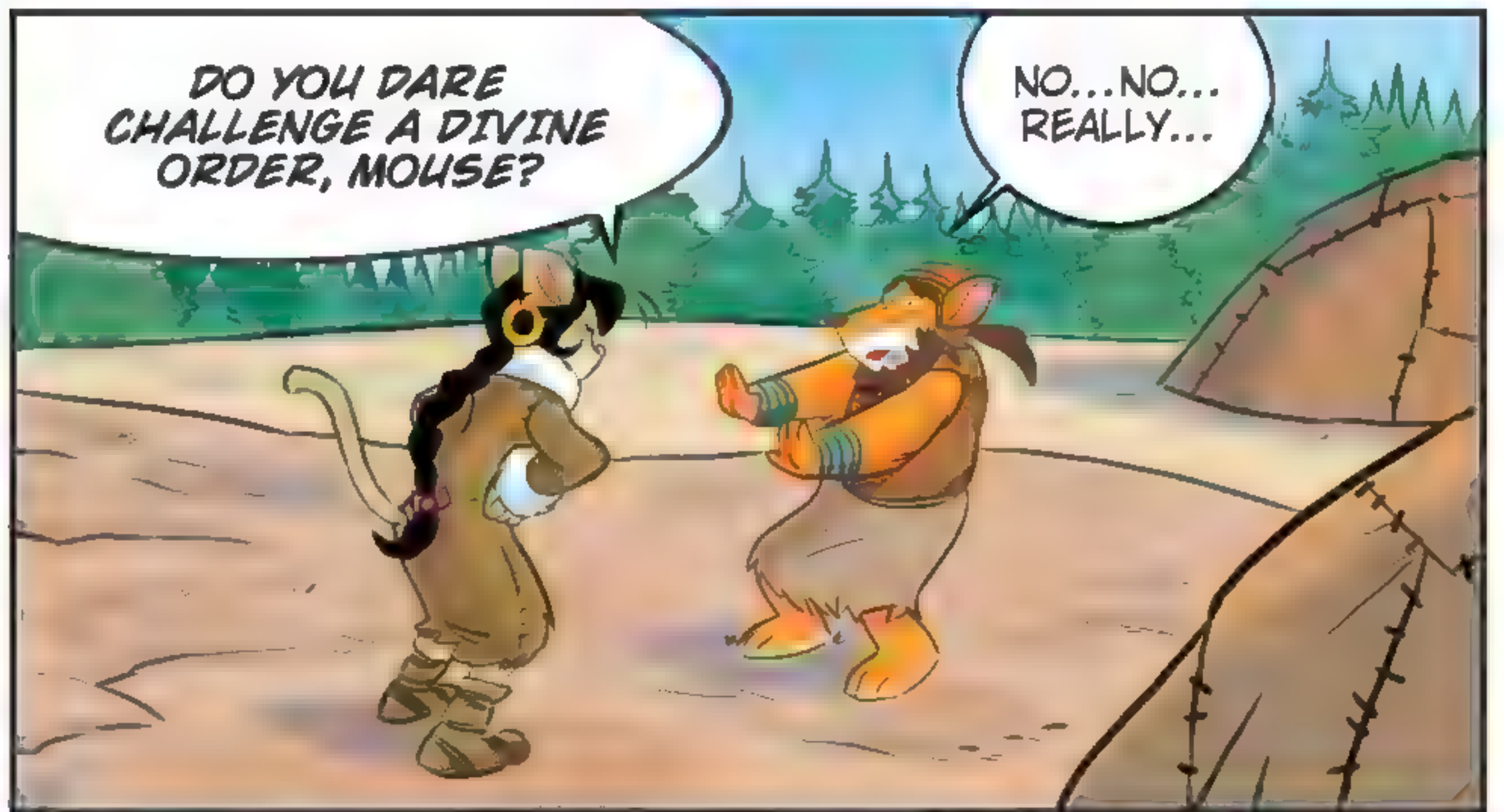
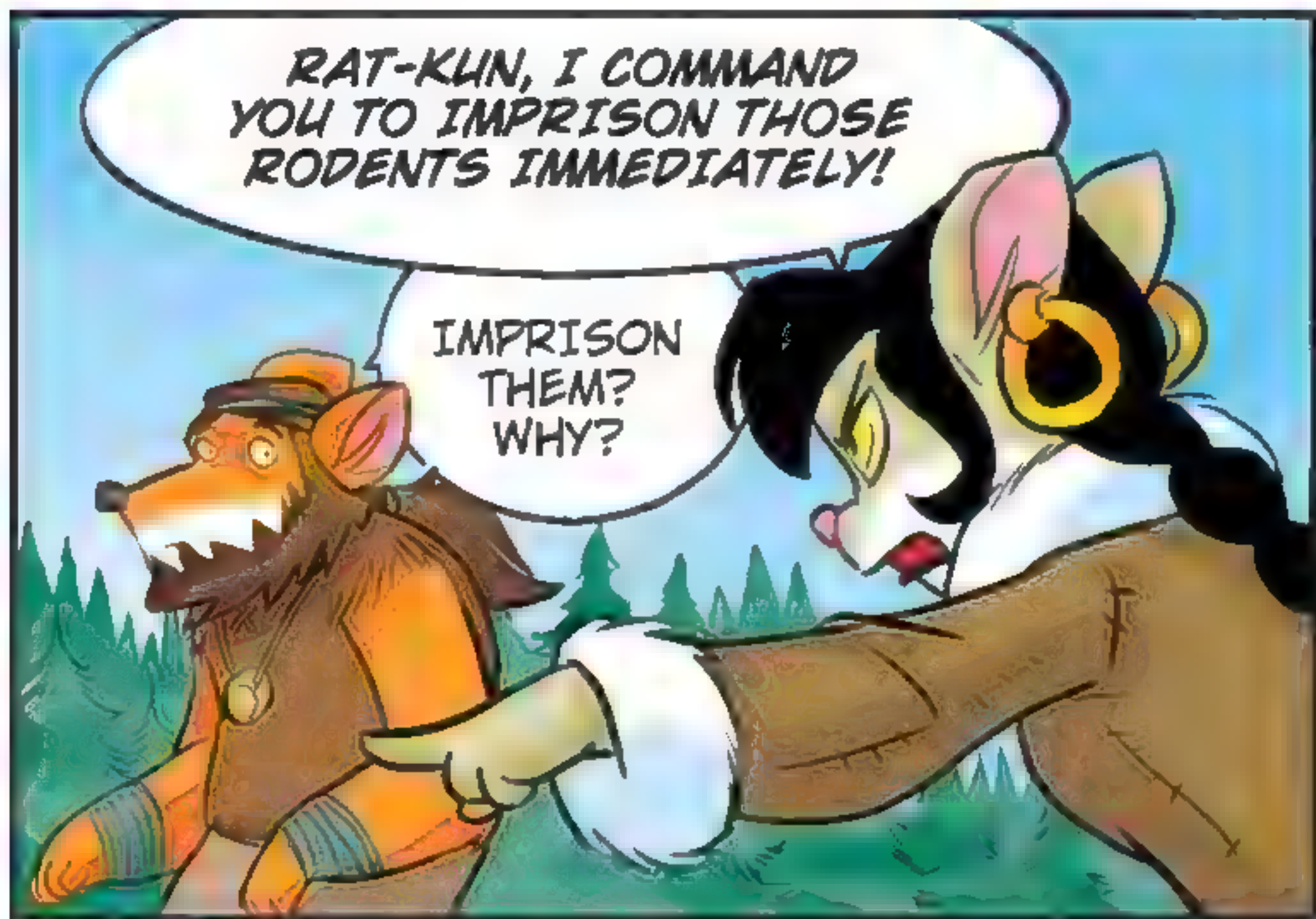


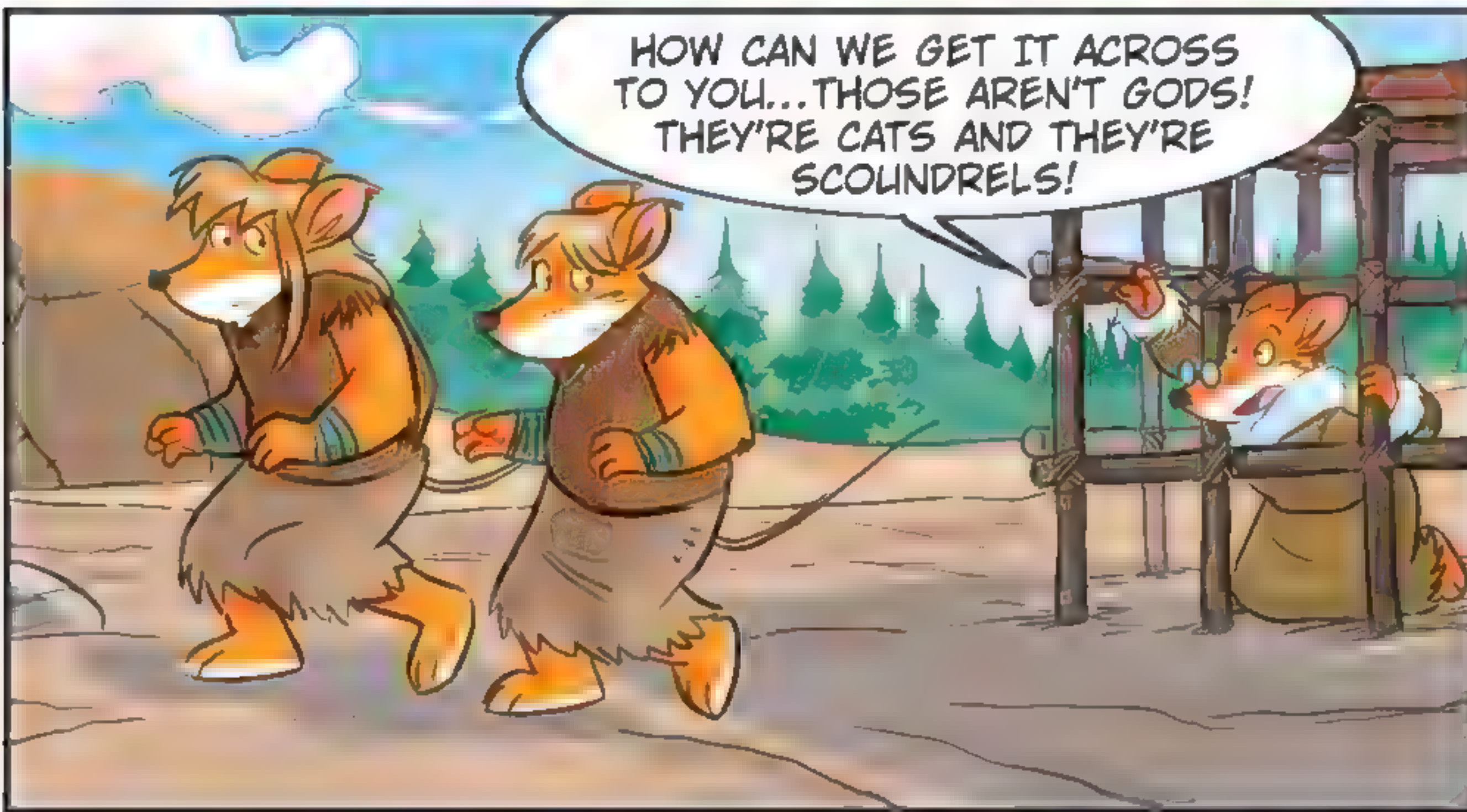
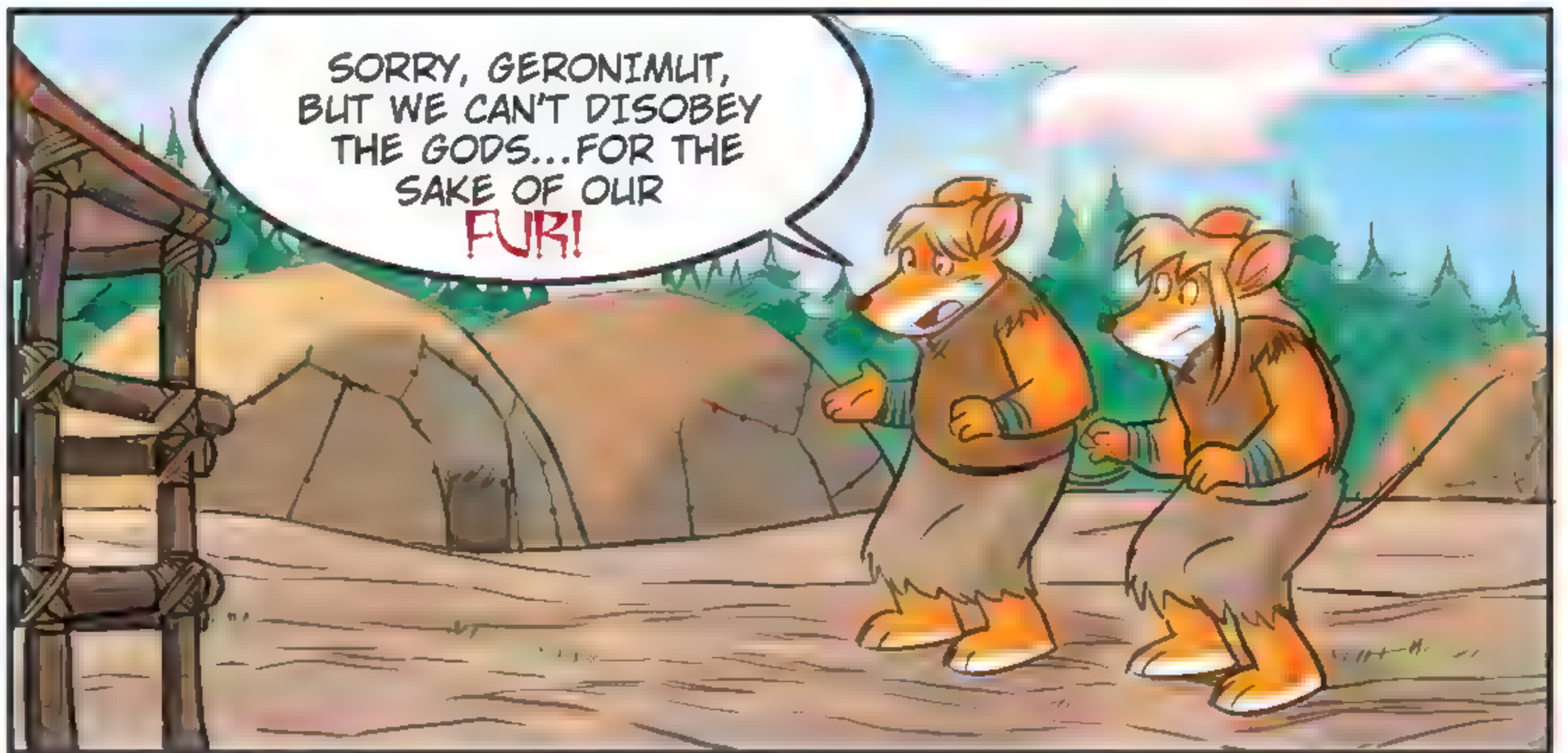


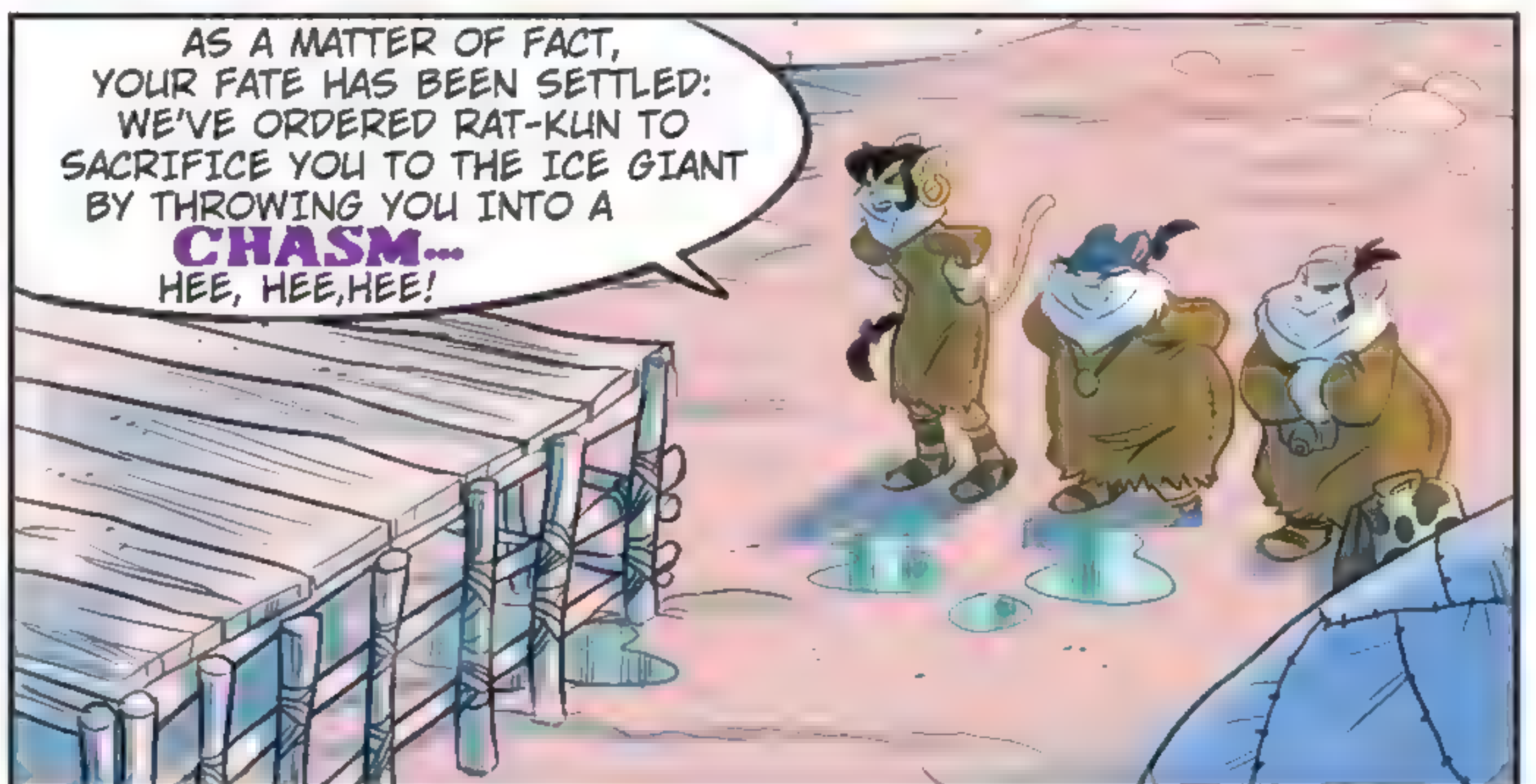
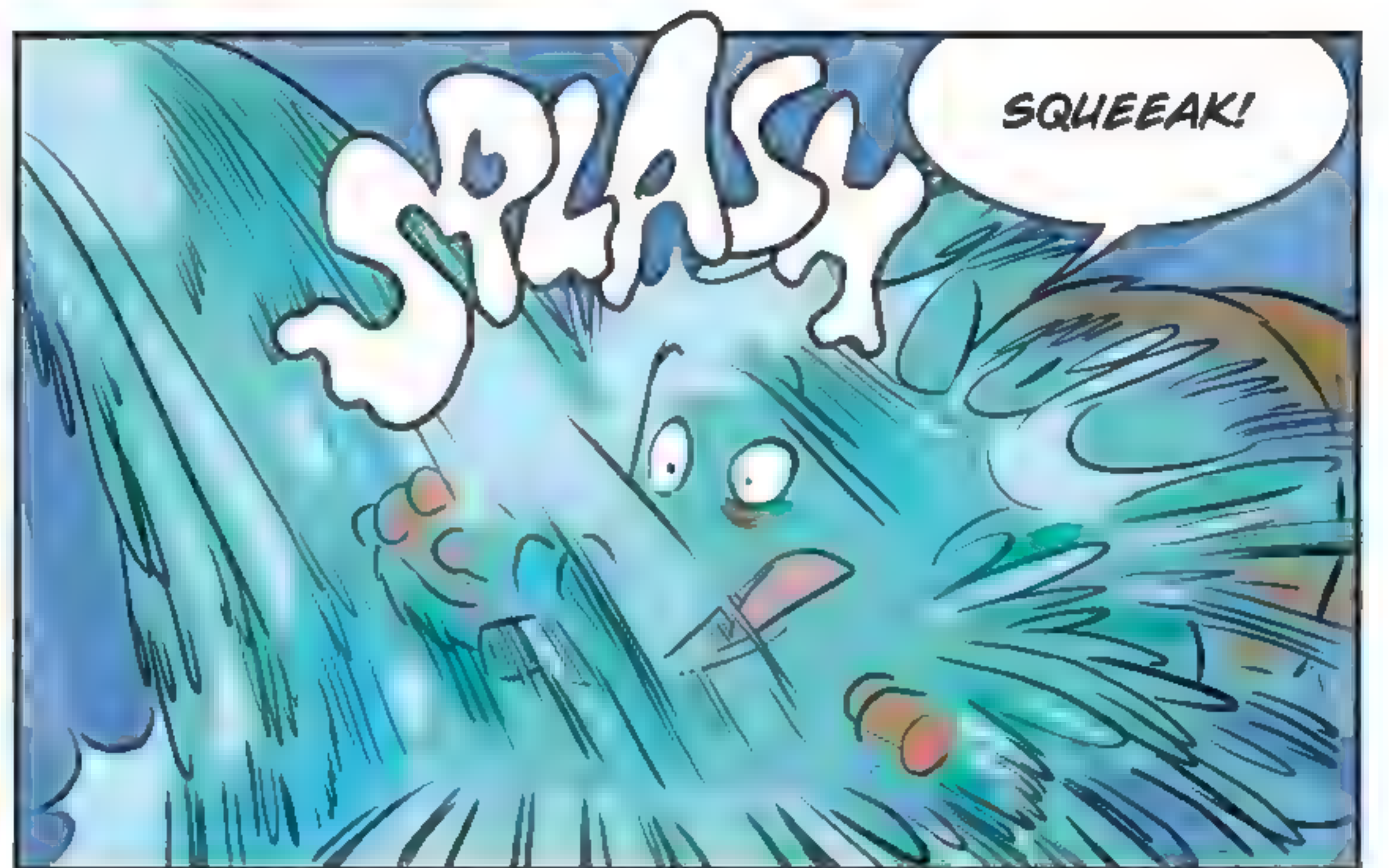
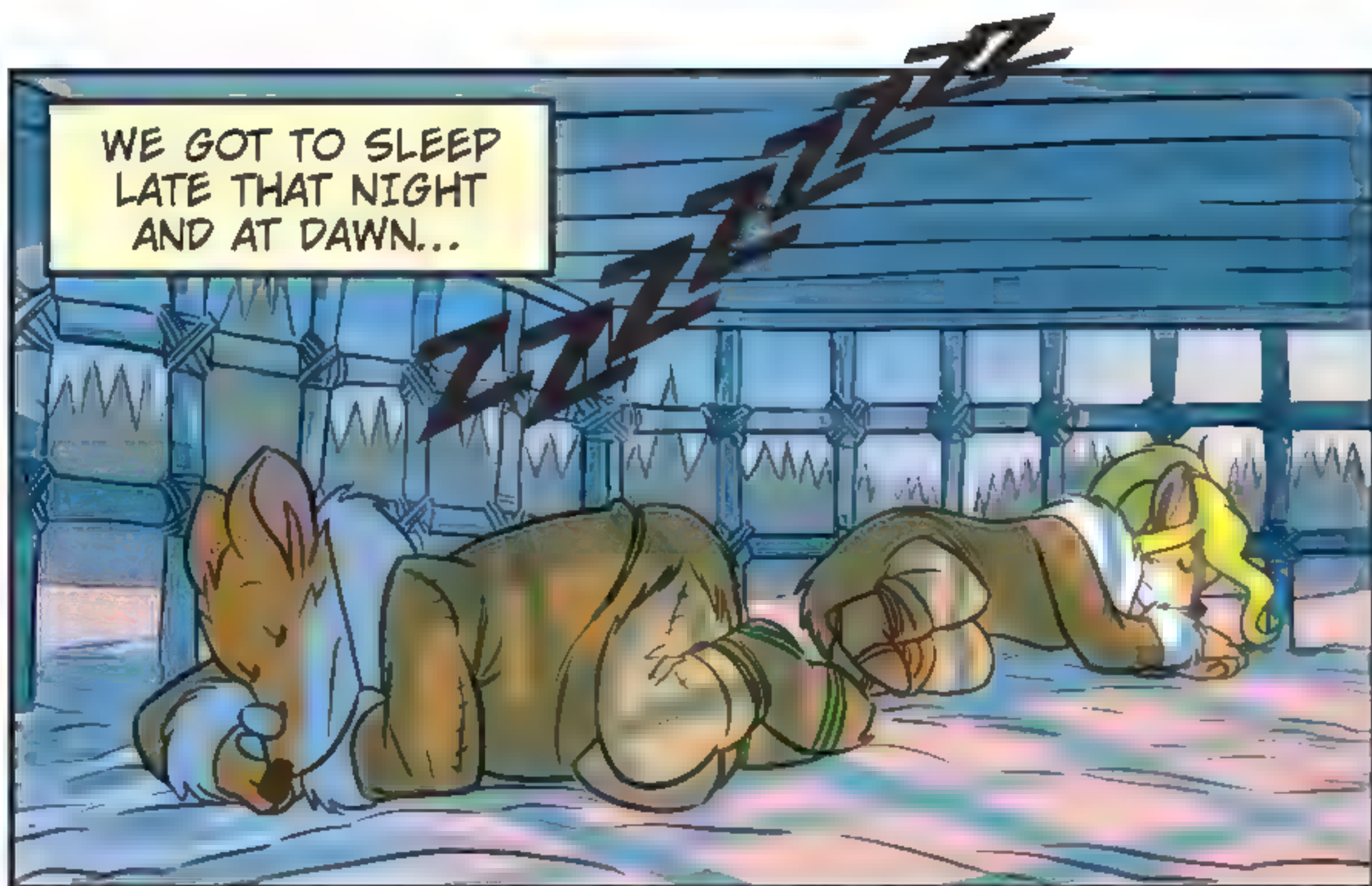
FOOD

THE NEANDERTHAL DIET MOSTLY CONSISTED OF THE MEAT OF THE ANIMALS THEY HUNTED AND FRUIT AND ROOTS THEY GATHERED IN FORESTS. DEER, HARES, MAMMOTHS, MARMOTS, BEARS, AND REINDEER WERE THE REGULAR PREY THEY HUNTED. THEY THEN USED THE BONES AND SKIN AS WELL TO MAKE CLOTHING, HUTS, AND VARIOUS TOOLS.















HERE WE ARE
NOW...W-W-
WE'RE...



CHIN UP, RAT-KUN,
WHAT'RE YOU AFRAID OF?
YOU'RE IN THE COMPANY
OF THREE DEITIES!

BESIDES, AT THE
MOMENT THERE'RE NO
MONSTERS TO BE
SEEN AROUND
HERE!



SQUEEEAK!!!

?!?

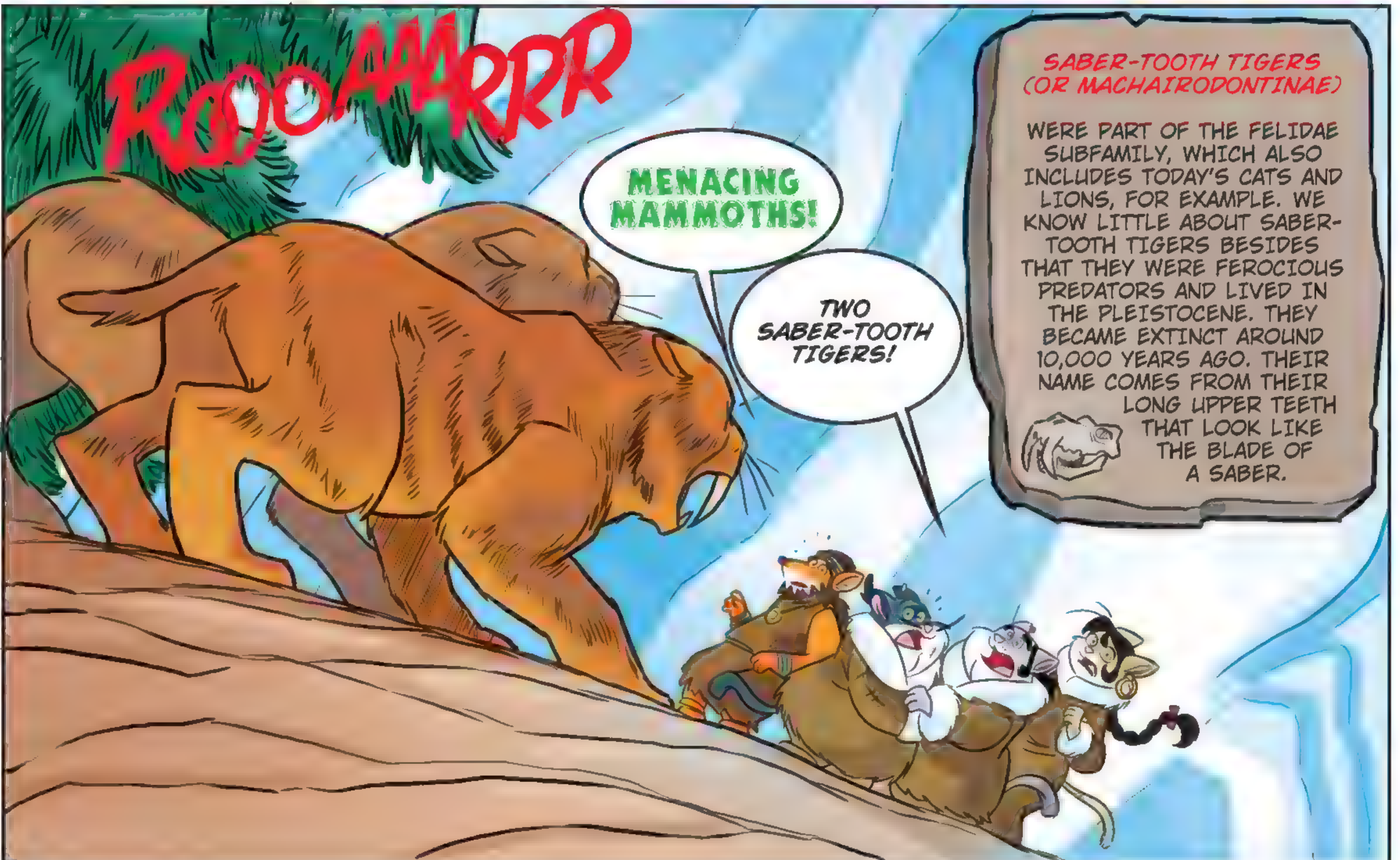
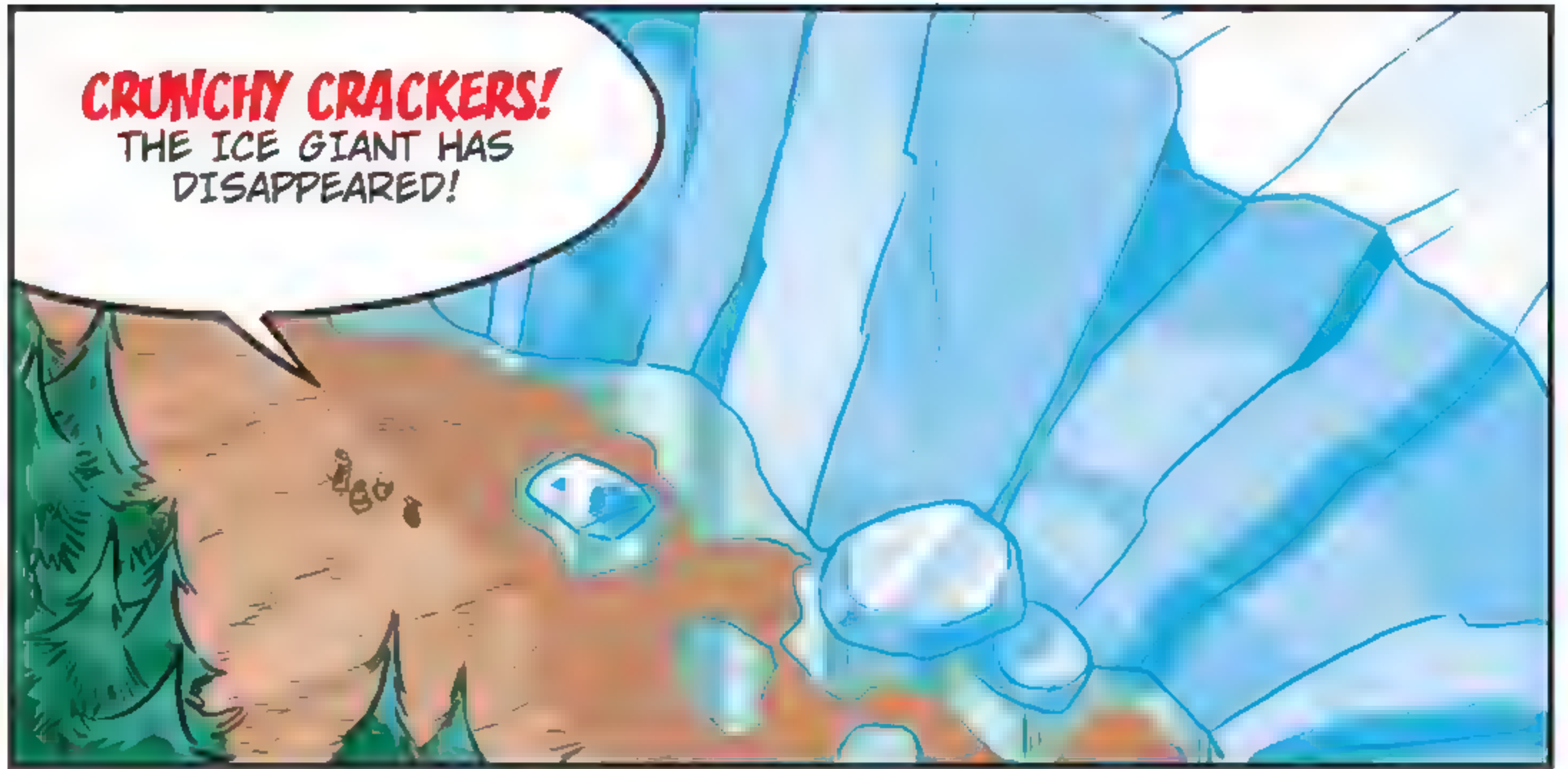


THE MONSTER'S
ARRIVED! QUICK,
RUN AWAY!

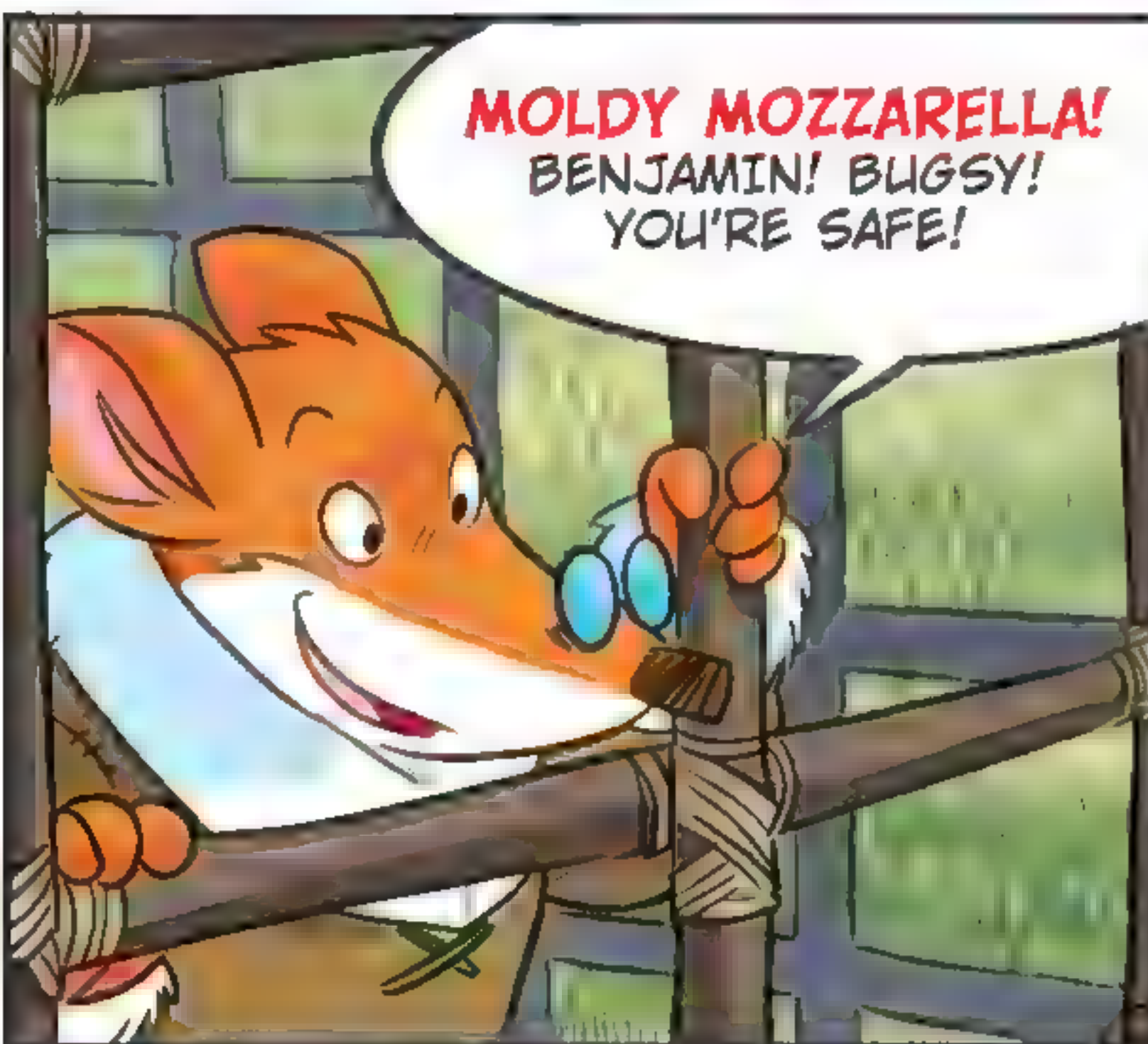
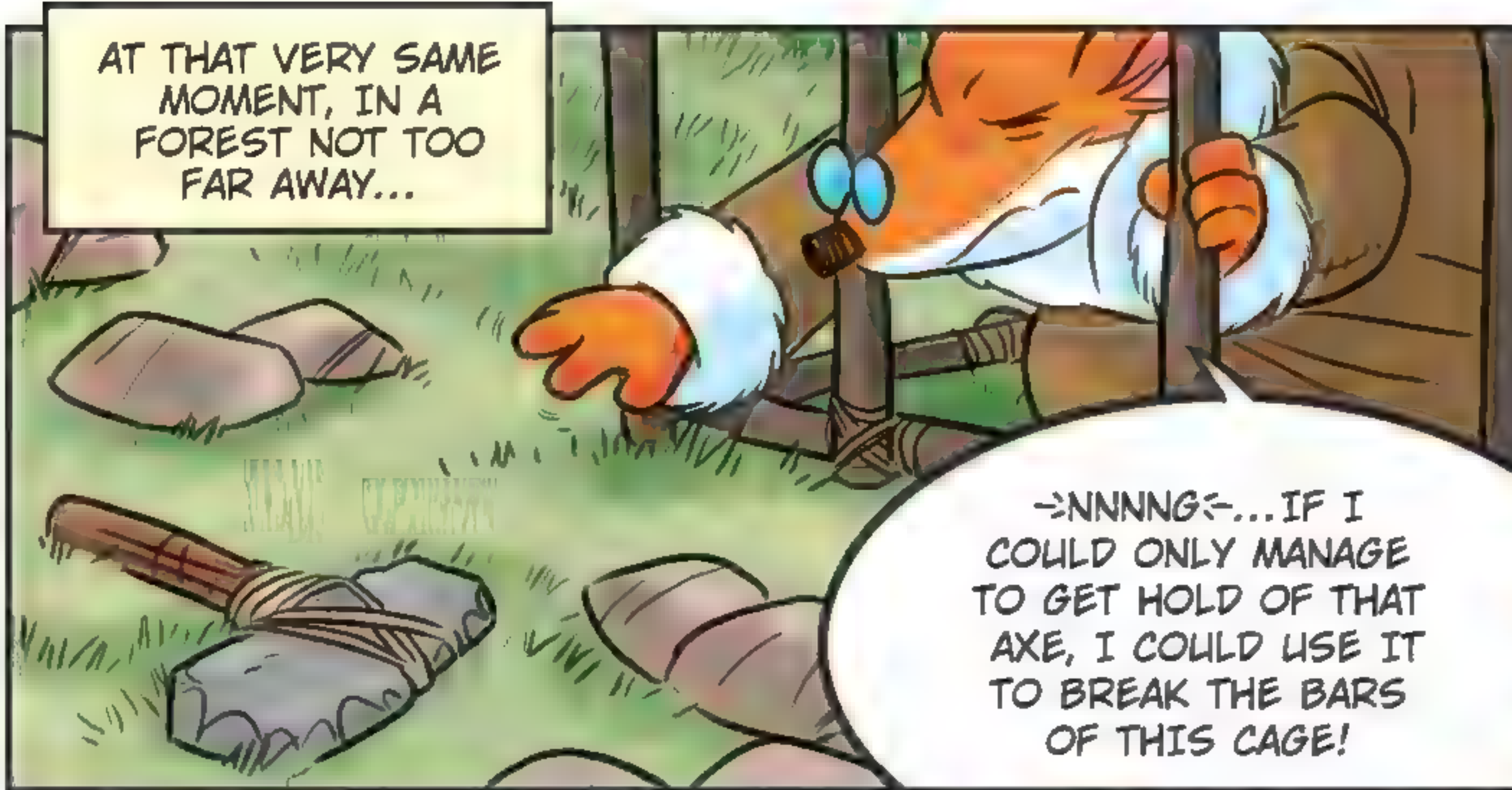


TH-TH-THERE IT
IS...THAT'S IT!



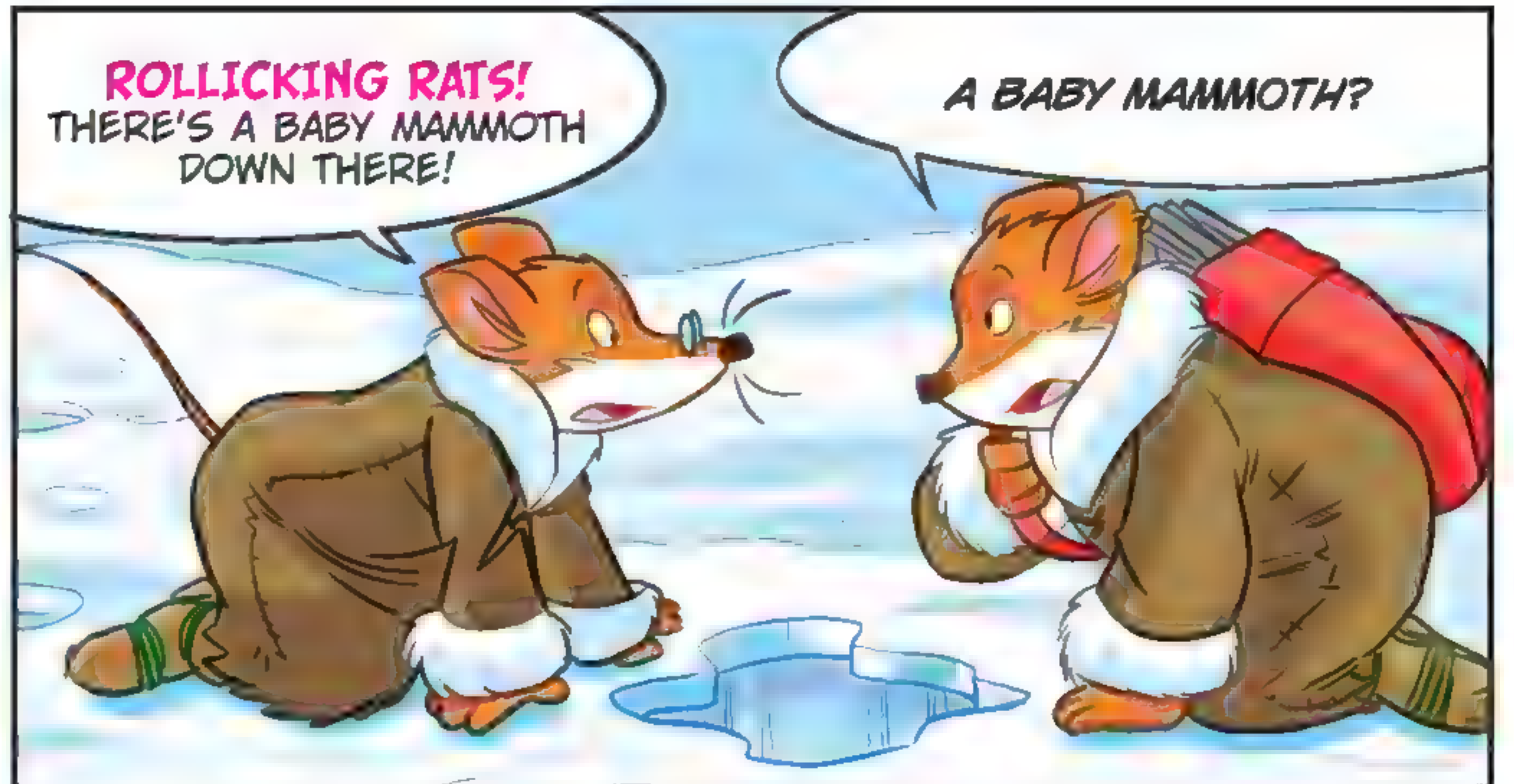








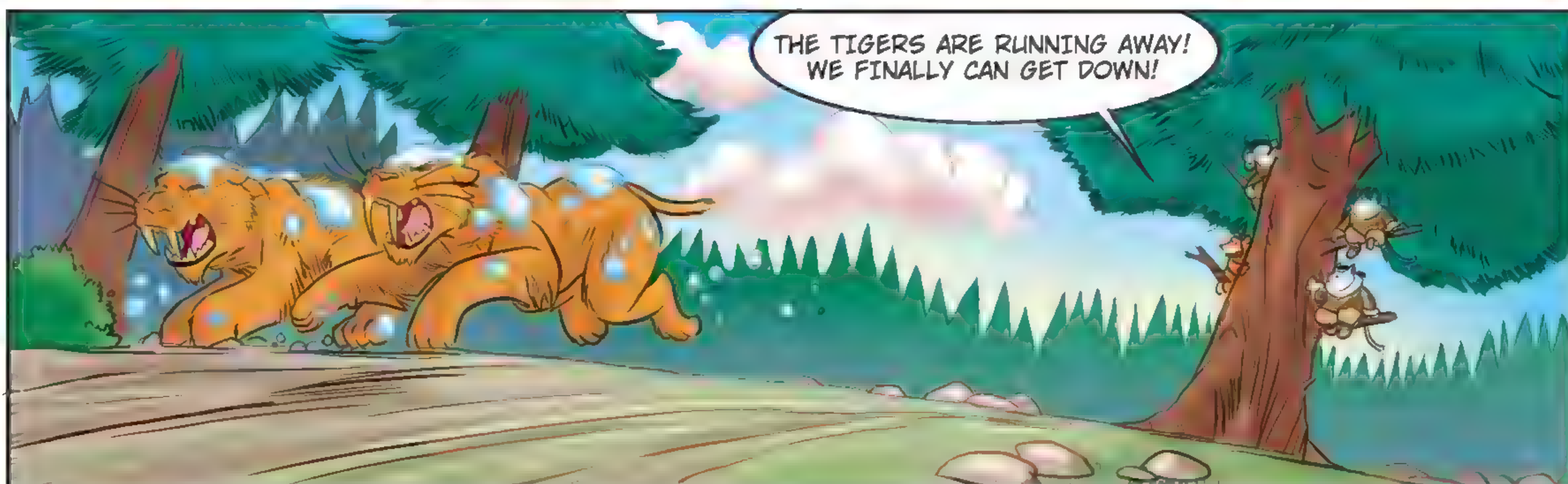




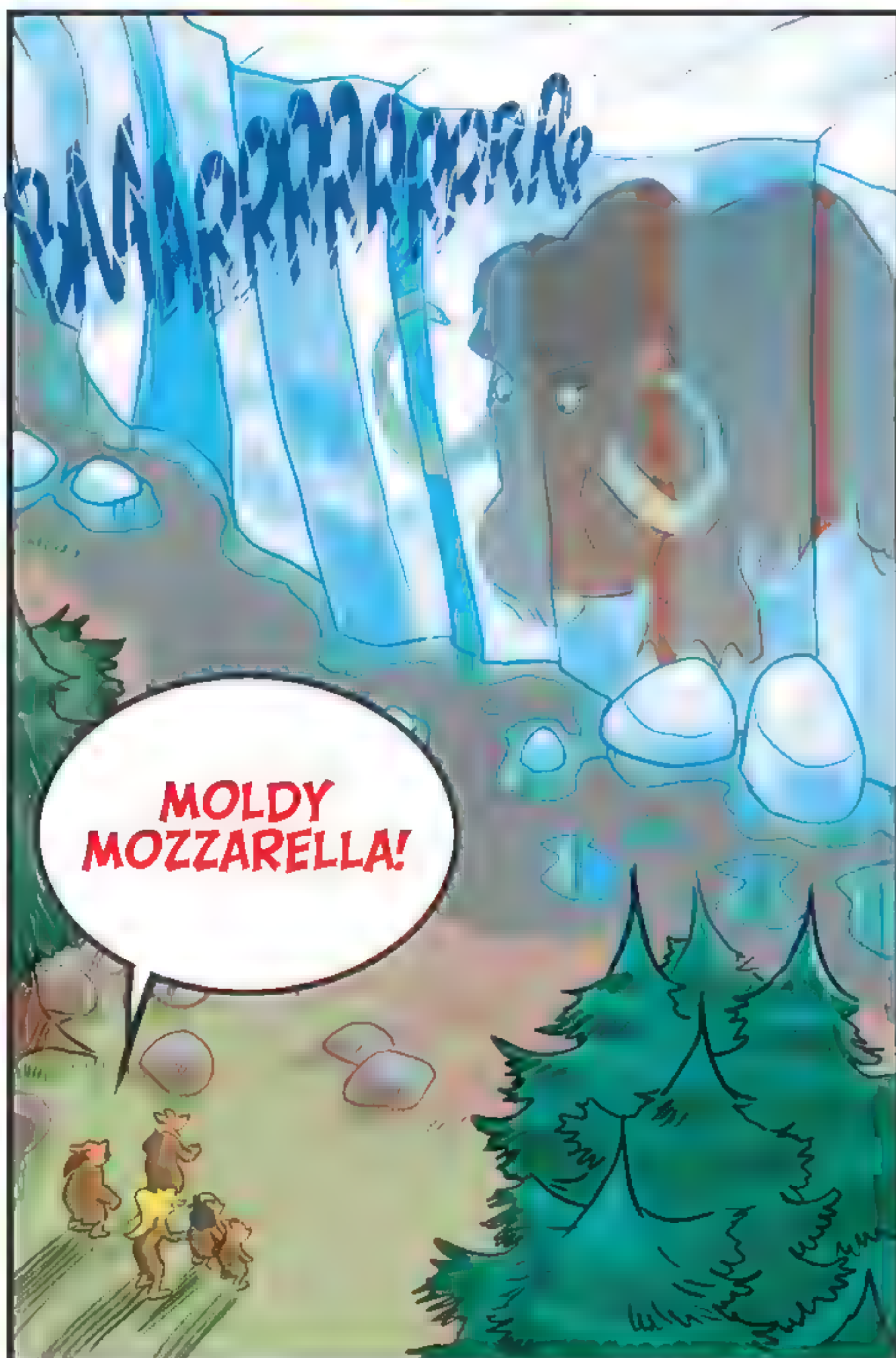


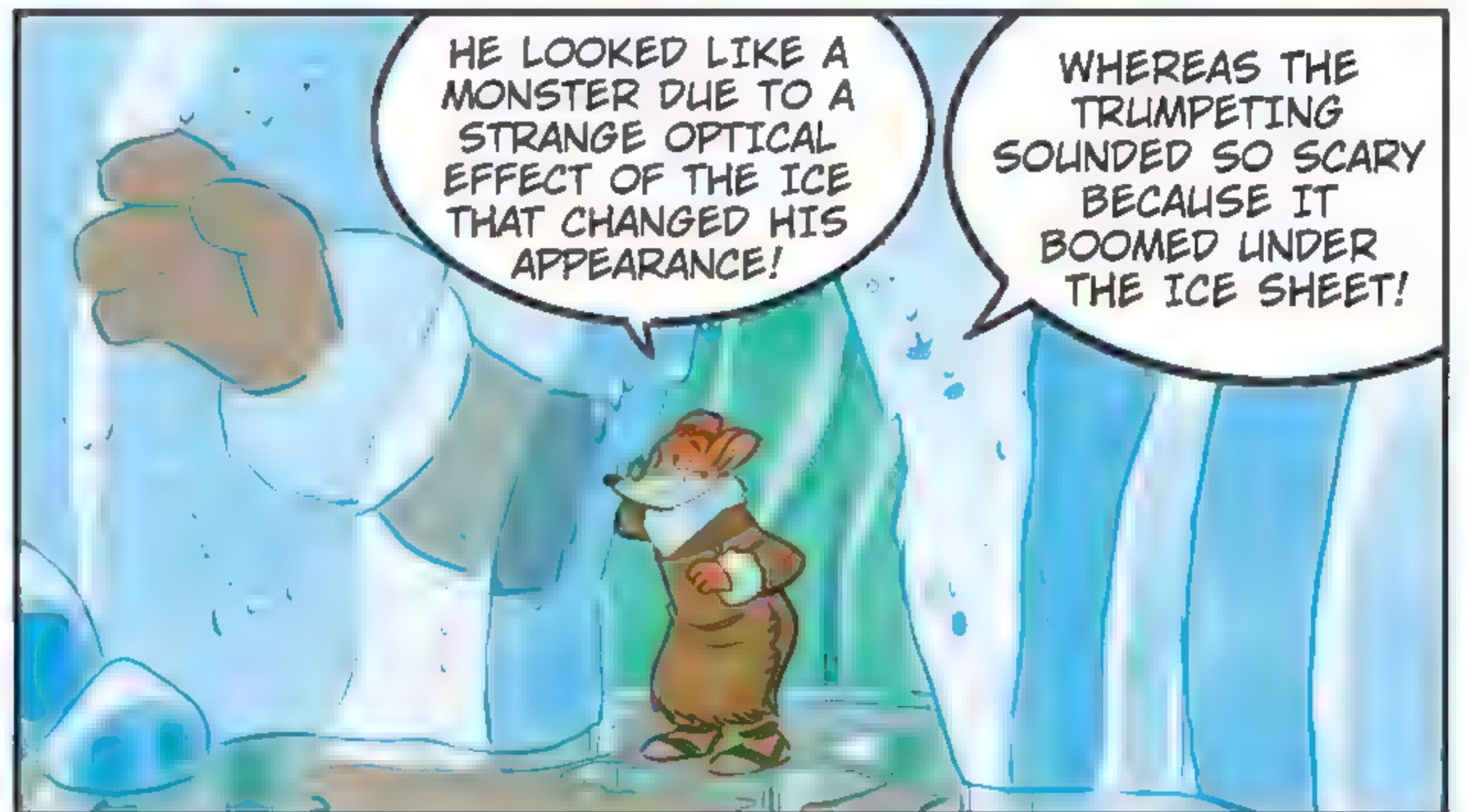


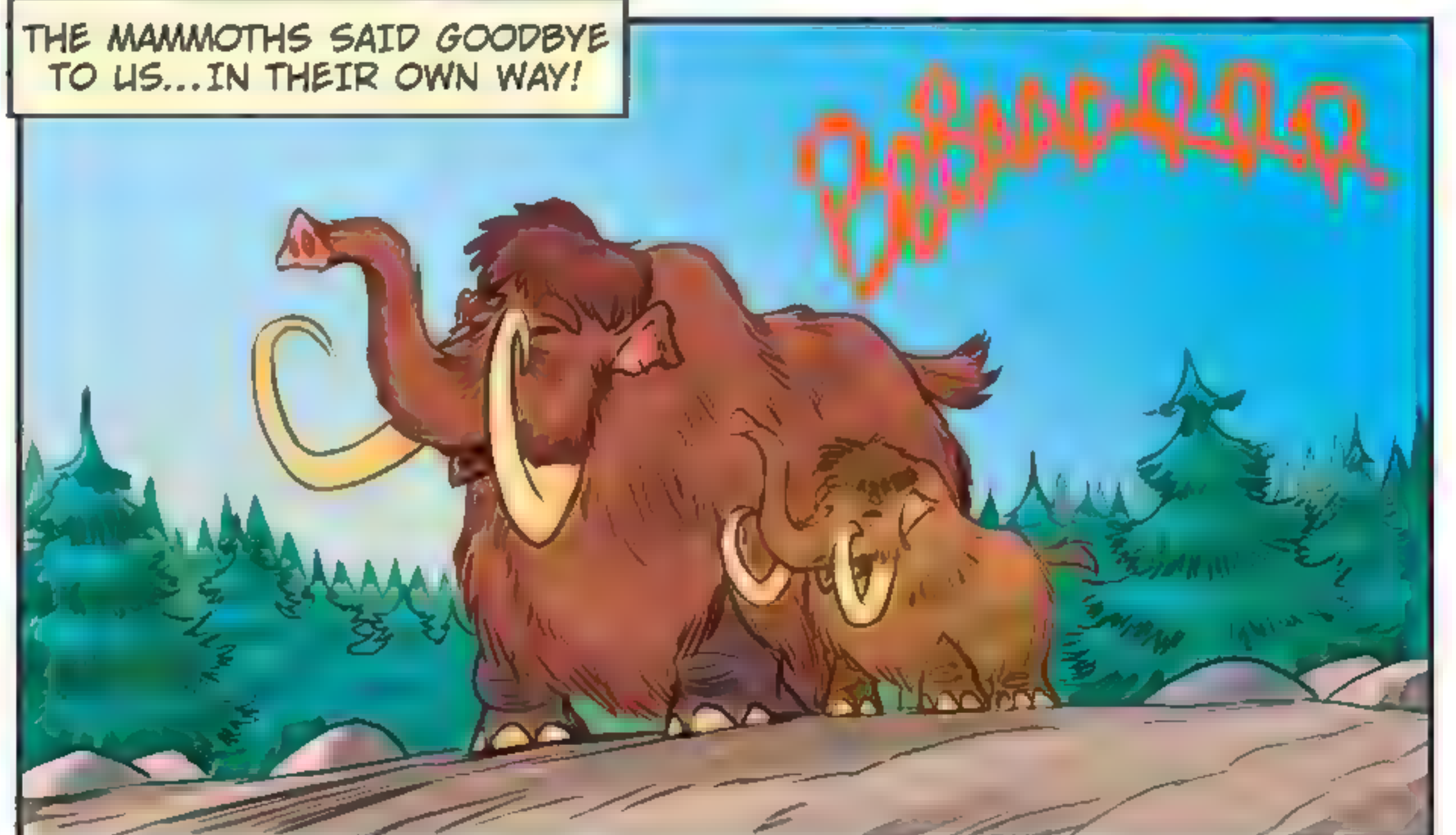
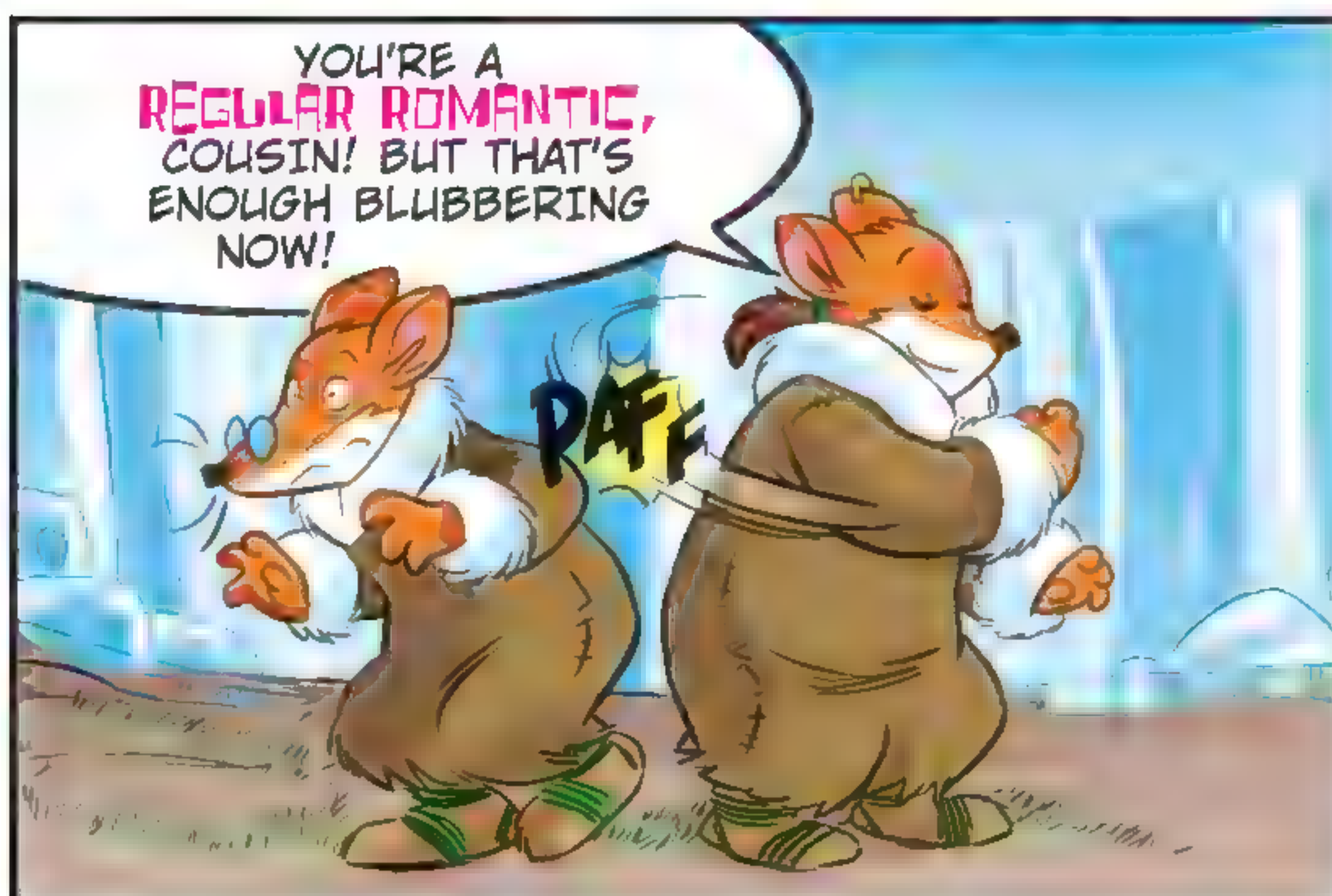
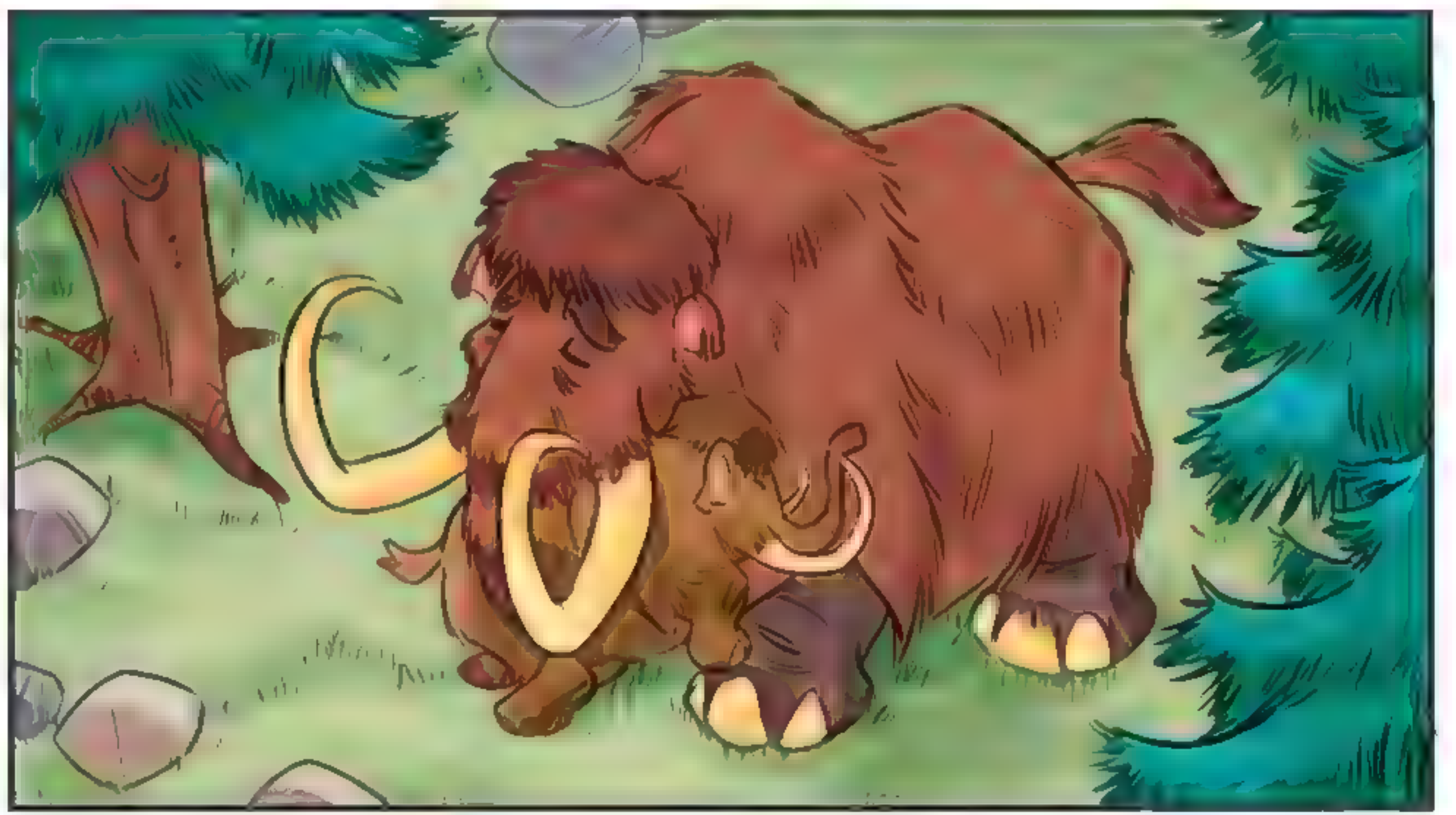
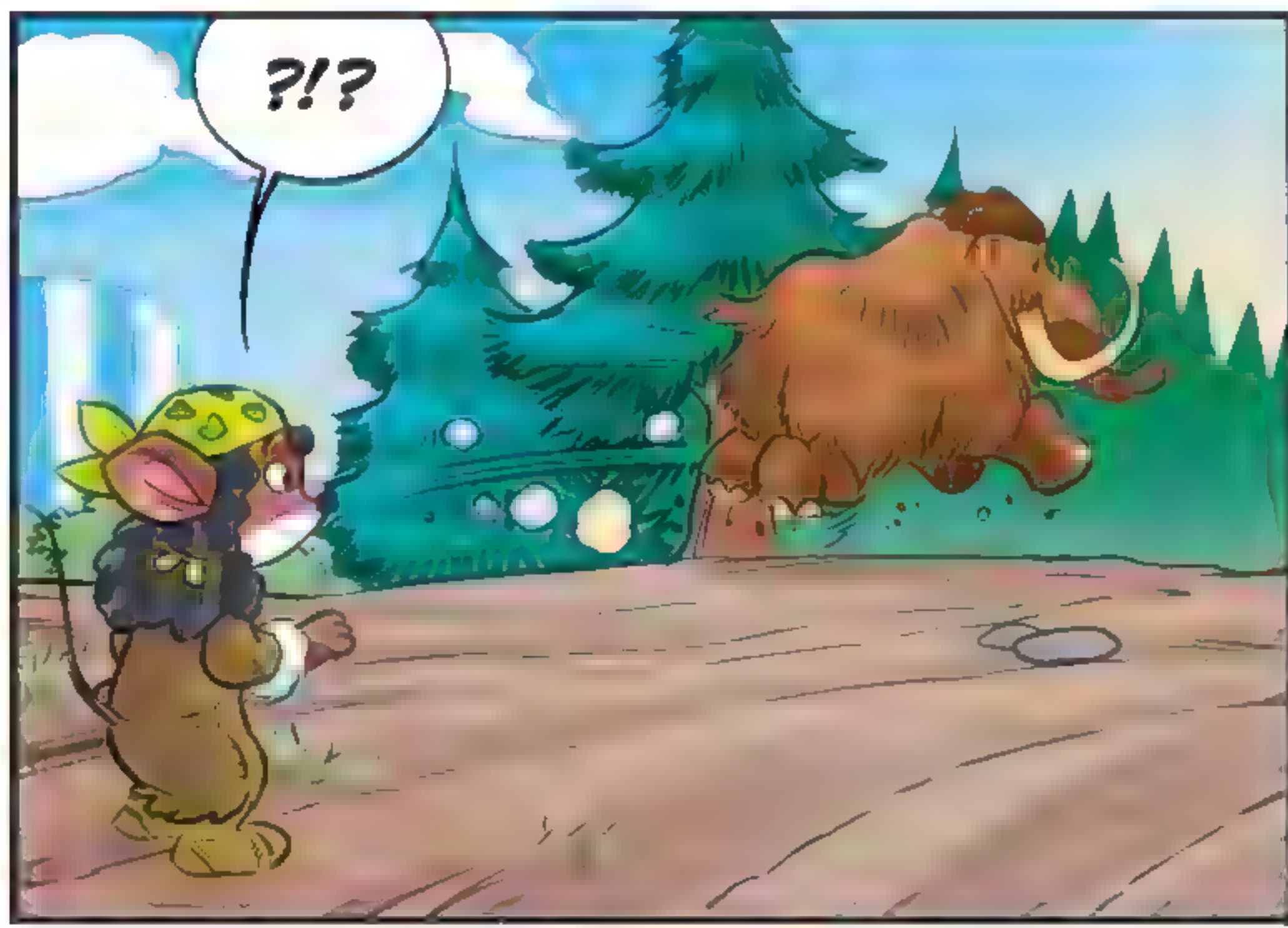
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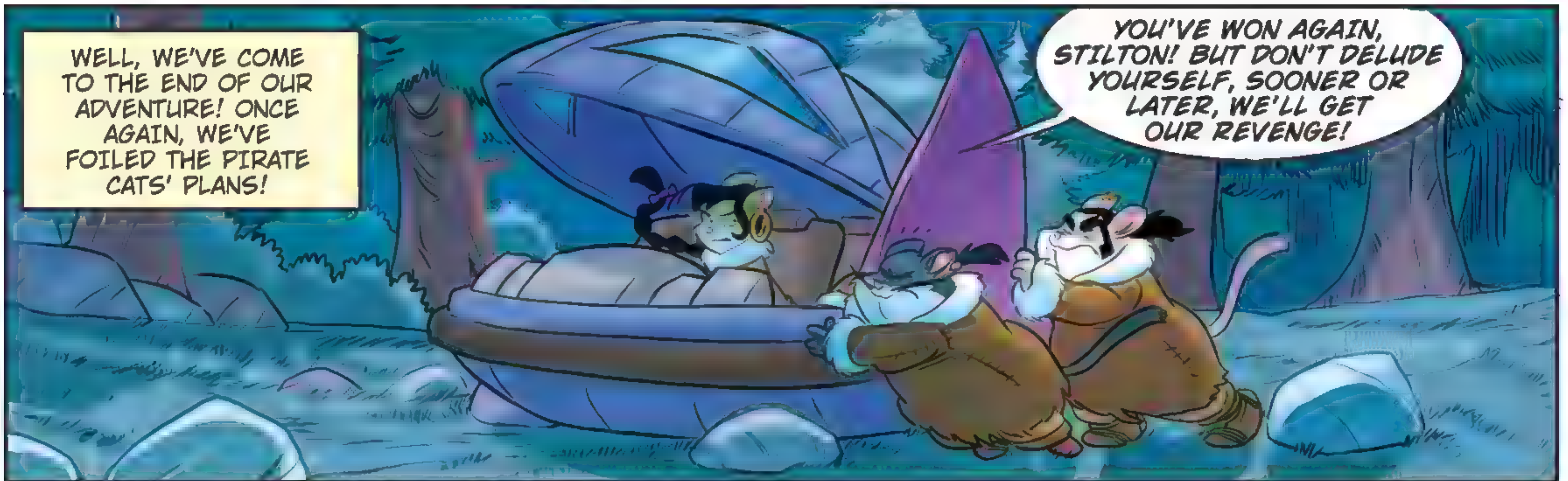






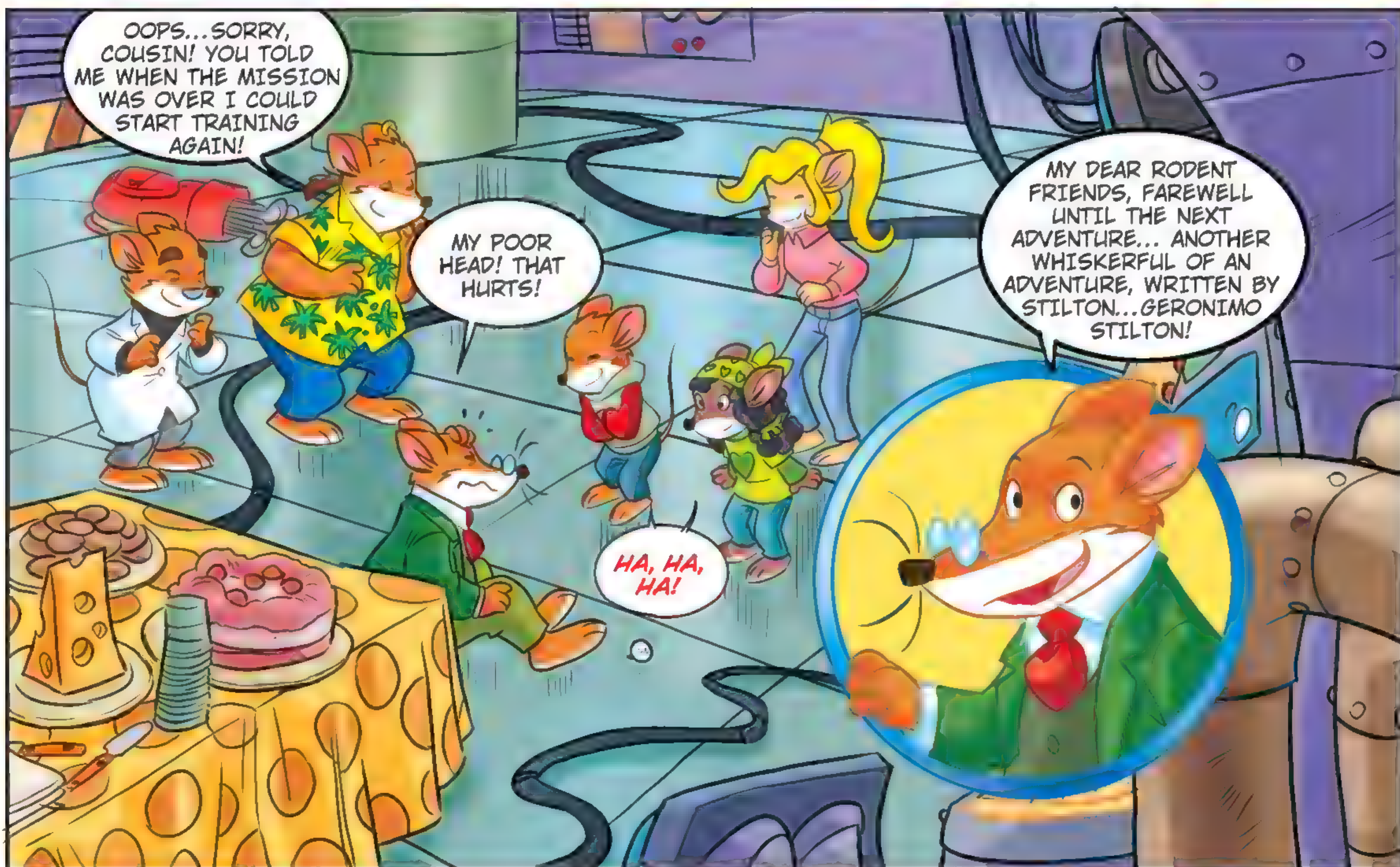






JEWELRY

CAVE PEOPLE WORE VARIOUS TYPES OF NECKLACES AND BRACELETS. THIS JEWELRY WAS MADE OF SEA SHELLS, SMALL COLORED STONES, DRIED INSECTS, AND, ESPECIALLY, THE TEETH AND CLAWS OF WILD ANIMALS (BEARS, TIGERS, AND WOLVES), THAT HUNTERS EXHIBITED AS THEIR OWN, AUTHENTIC TROPHIES AS PROOF OF THEIR COURAGE.





Watch Out For PAPERCUTZ

Something funny was going on in an office on the thirteenth floor in an office building on Manhattan Island. Michael Petranek, Papercutz editorial assistant, was having a crisis. Hold on, I forgot to introduce myself. My name is Salicrup, *Jim Salicrup*, and I'm the Editor-in-Chief at Papercutz, the most famous kids graphic novel publisher on Exchange Place. Michael just received from our printer brand new copies of both the latest GERONIMO STILTON graphic novel and the new DISNEY FAIRIES graphic novel, and he didn't know which one to look at first.

On one hand, Michael loved the great, big, adventure story featured in each GERONIMO STILTON graphic novel, but on the other hand, it was also fun to have several shorter stories collected in one DISNEY FAIRIES graphic novel. Similarly, Michael always enjoys the time-travel and historic references found in every GERONIMO STILTON graphic novel, yet he also loves the fantasy-filled fun found in Pixie Hollow, where Tinker Bell and her fairy friends live in Never Land as shown in every DISNEY FAIRIES graphic novel. Furthermore, Michael also liked to see Geronimo foil the latest schemes of the Pirate Cats, but he also knew that Captain Hook and his pirates were always lurking about in Never Land ready to cause trouble! Michael just didn't know what to do. Which graphic novel would he get to enjoy first?

That's when I came into Michael's office, and asked him "Heads or tails?" Michael picked "heads," I flipped a coin and it came up heads. I took the DISNEY FAIRIES graphic novel, left him with the GERONIMO STILTON graphic novel, and told him as soon as he read the GERONIMO STILTON graphic novel, he could get the DISNEY FAIRIES graphic novel. Problem solved. That is until Papercutz publisher Terry Nantier came into Michael's office and announced that copies of the new NANCY DREW and HARDY BOYS graphic novels just came in from the printers!

"MOLDY MOZZARELLA!" Michael exclaimed, "Now what do I do?!" I quickly asked Michael, "Heads or tails?"

One of the great things about graphic novels is that once you have them, you can enjoy them whenever you want, as many times as you want. And in any order you like.

To find out more about Papercutz graphic novels, visit www.papercutz.com.

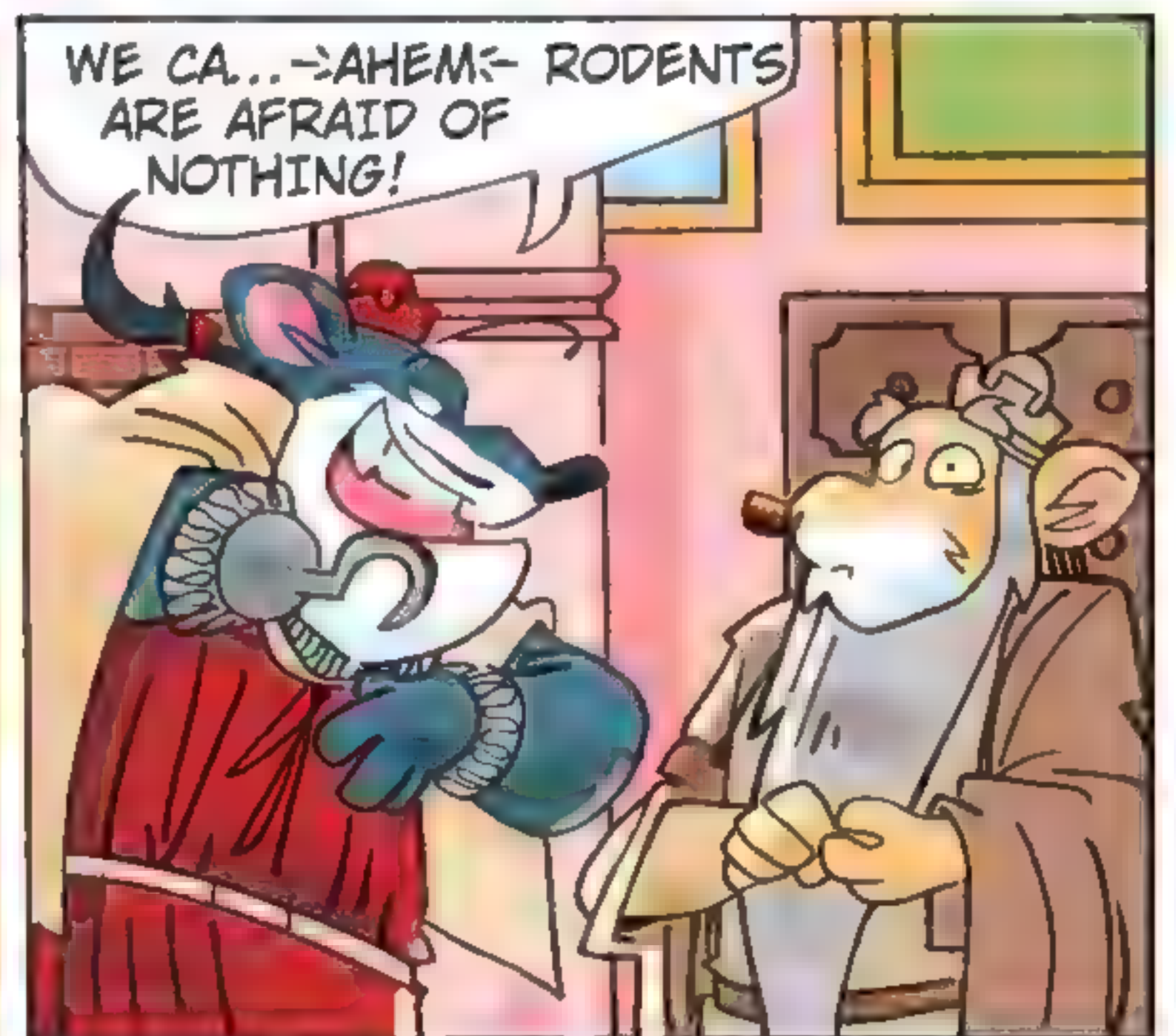
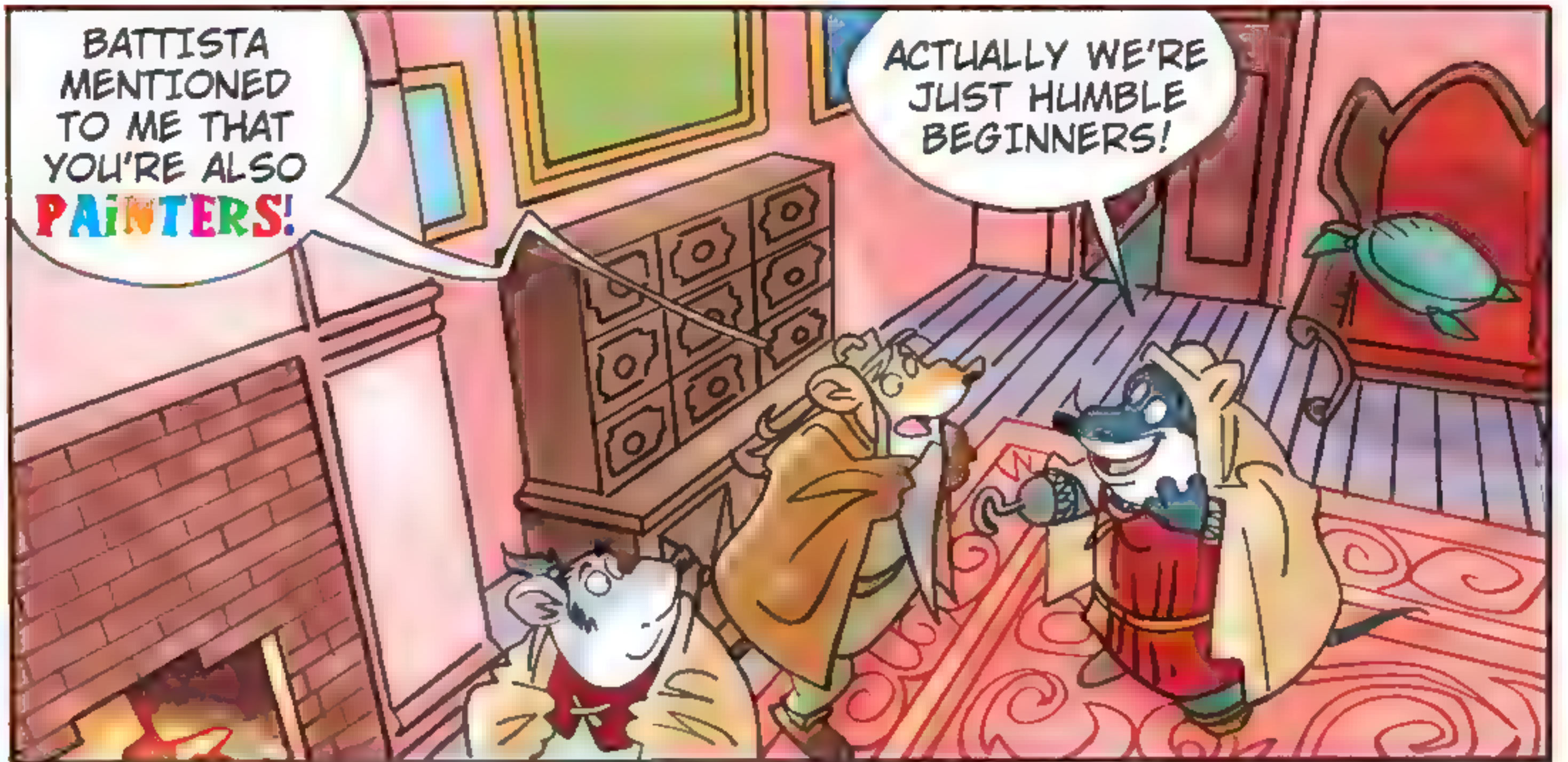
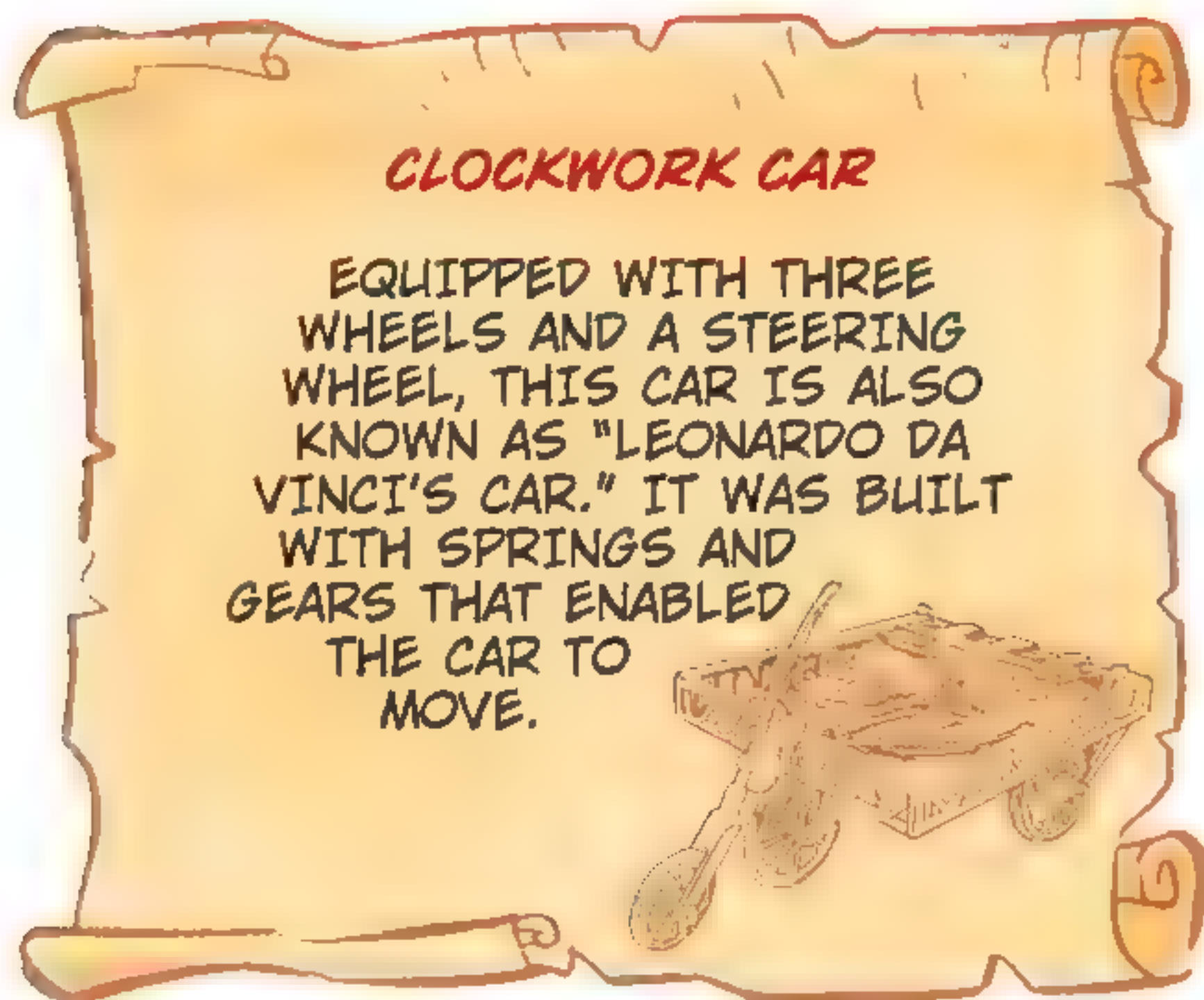
For a sneak preview of GERONIMO STILTON Graphic Novel #6 "Who Stole the Mona Lisa?" just turn the page.

So, until next time, beware of any pussycats trying to sell you the world-famous Mona Lisa painting—chances are it might be hot!

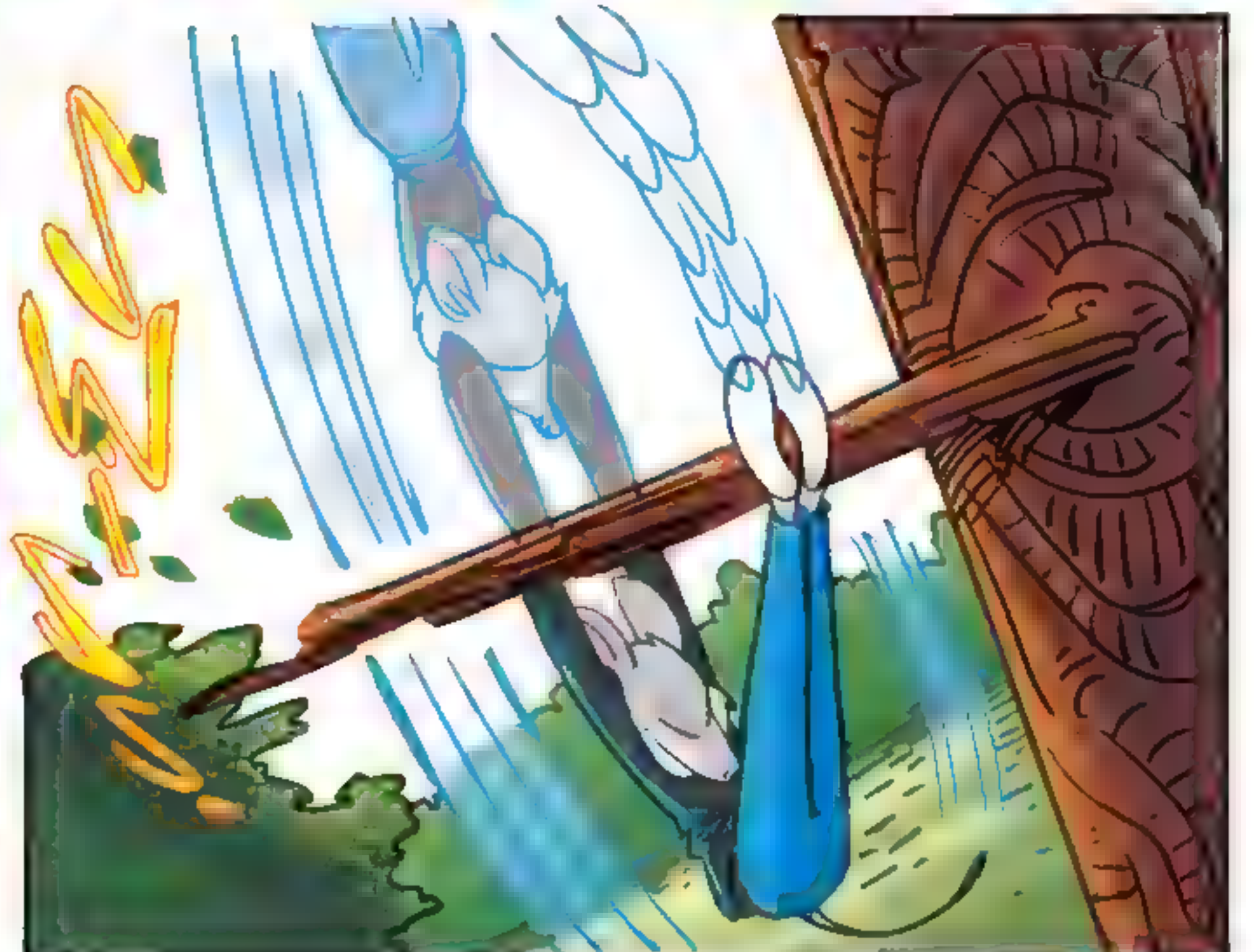
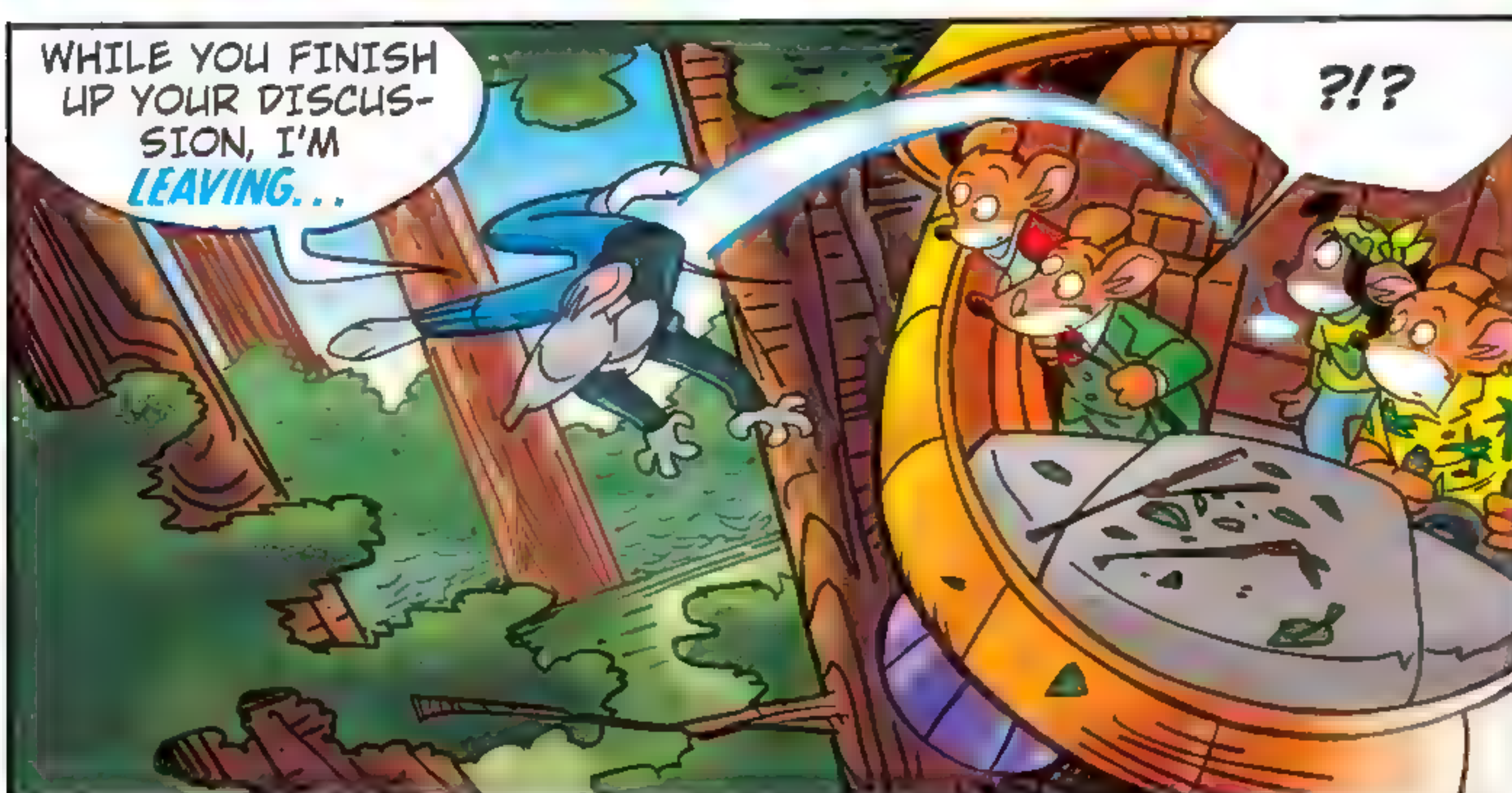
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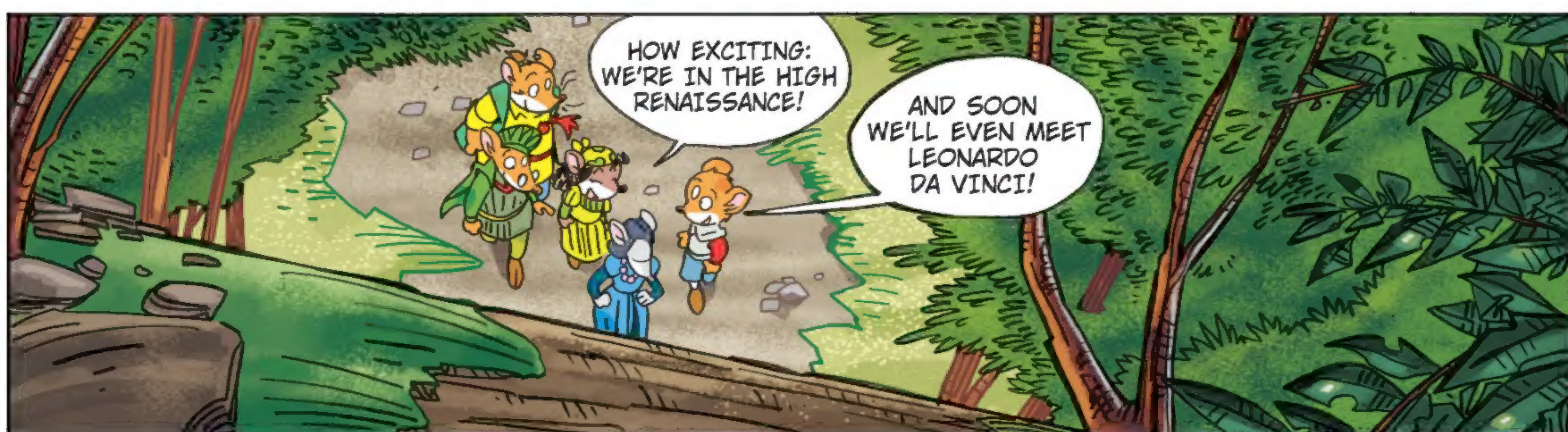


Special Preview of GERONIMO STILTON Graphic Novel #6– “Who Stole the Mona Lisa?”



IN THE MEANTIME,
MY FRIENDS AND I
HAD ALSO ARRIVED
NEAR AMBOISE.





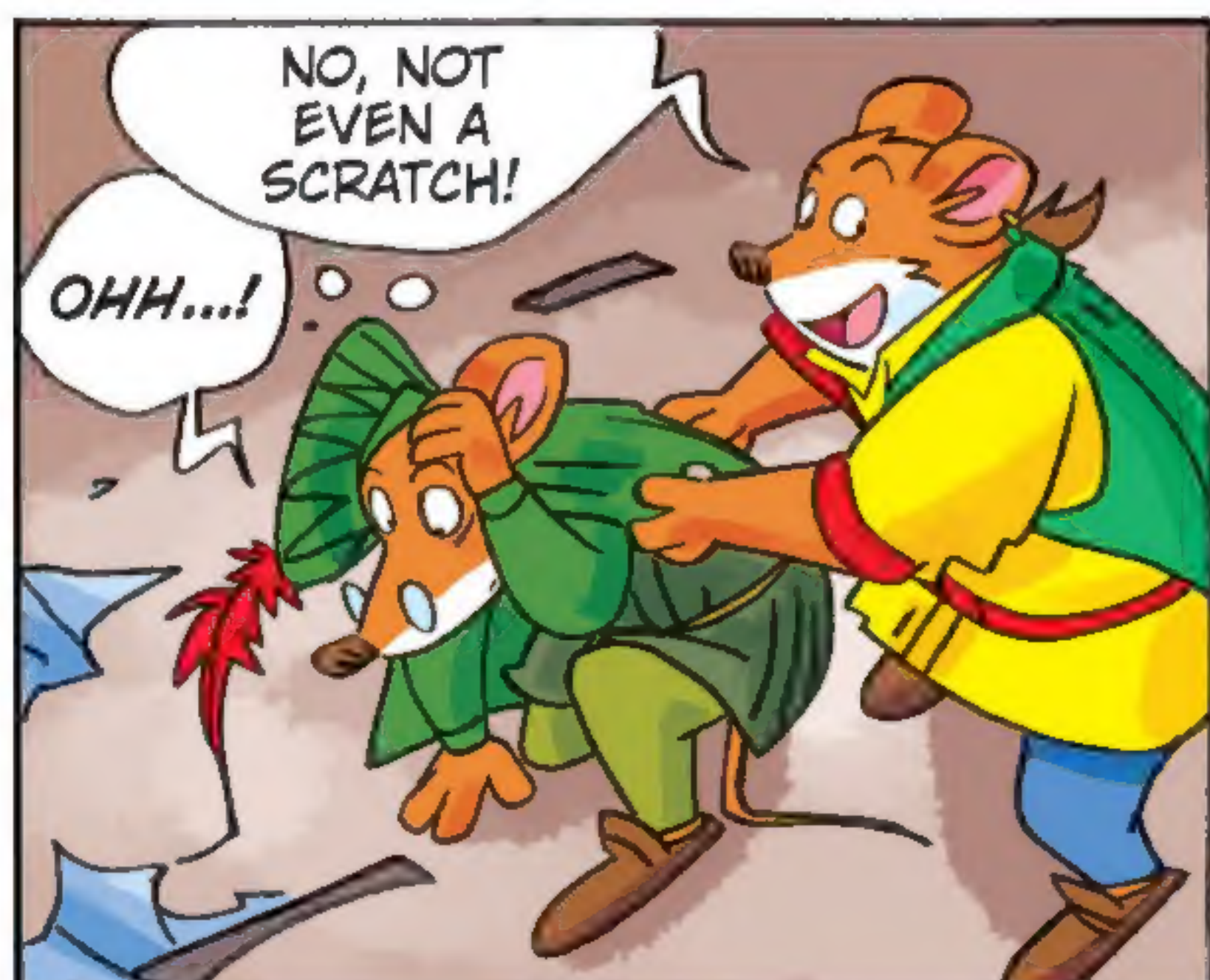
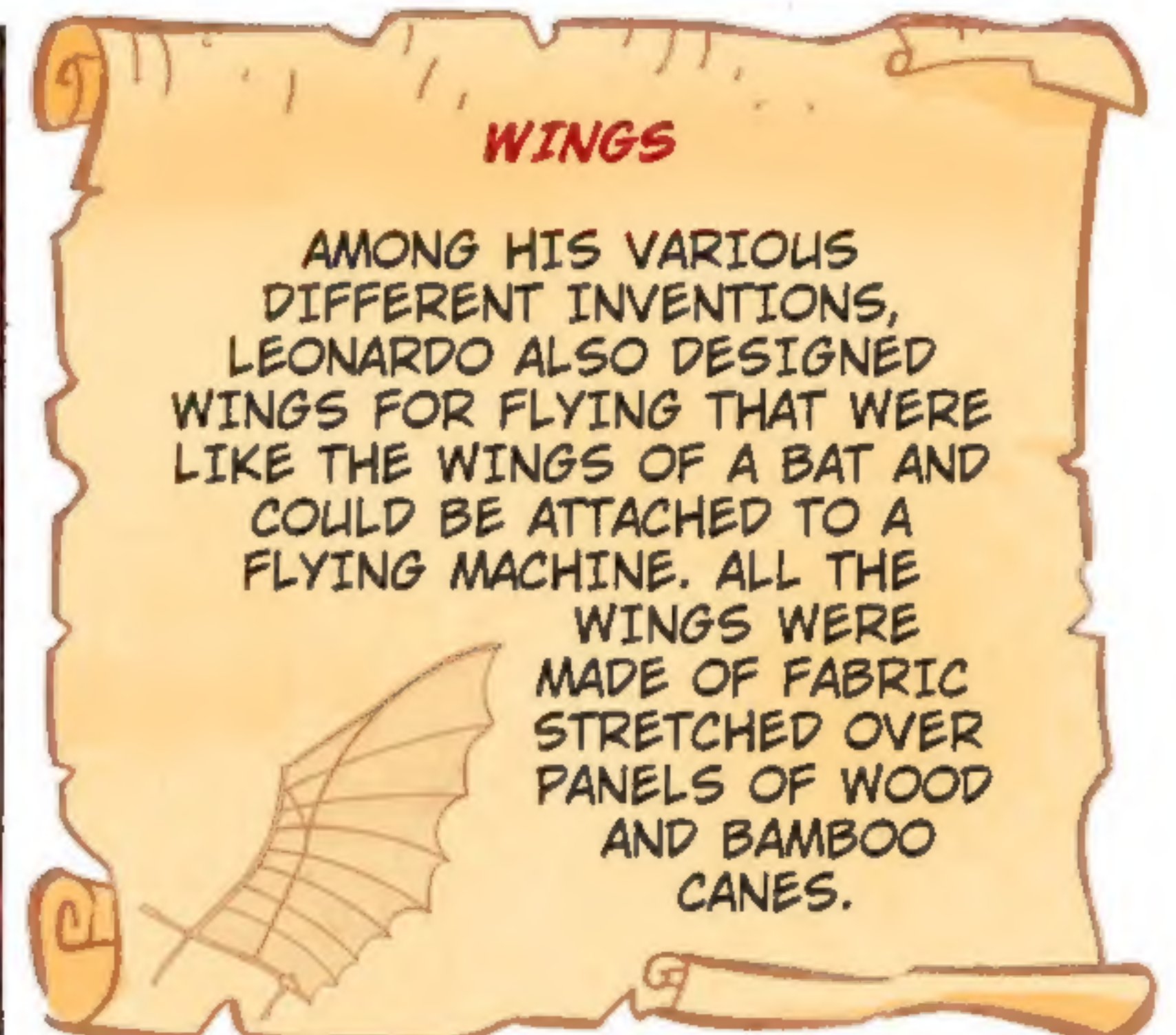
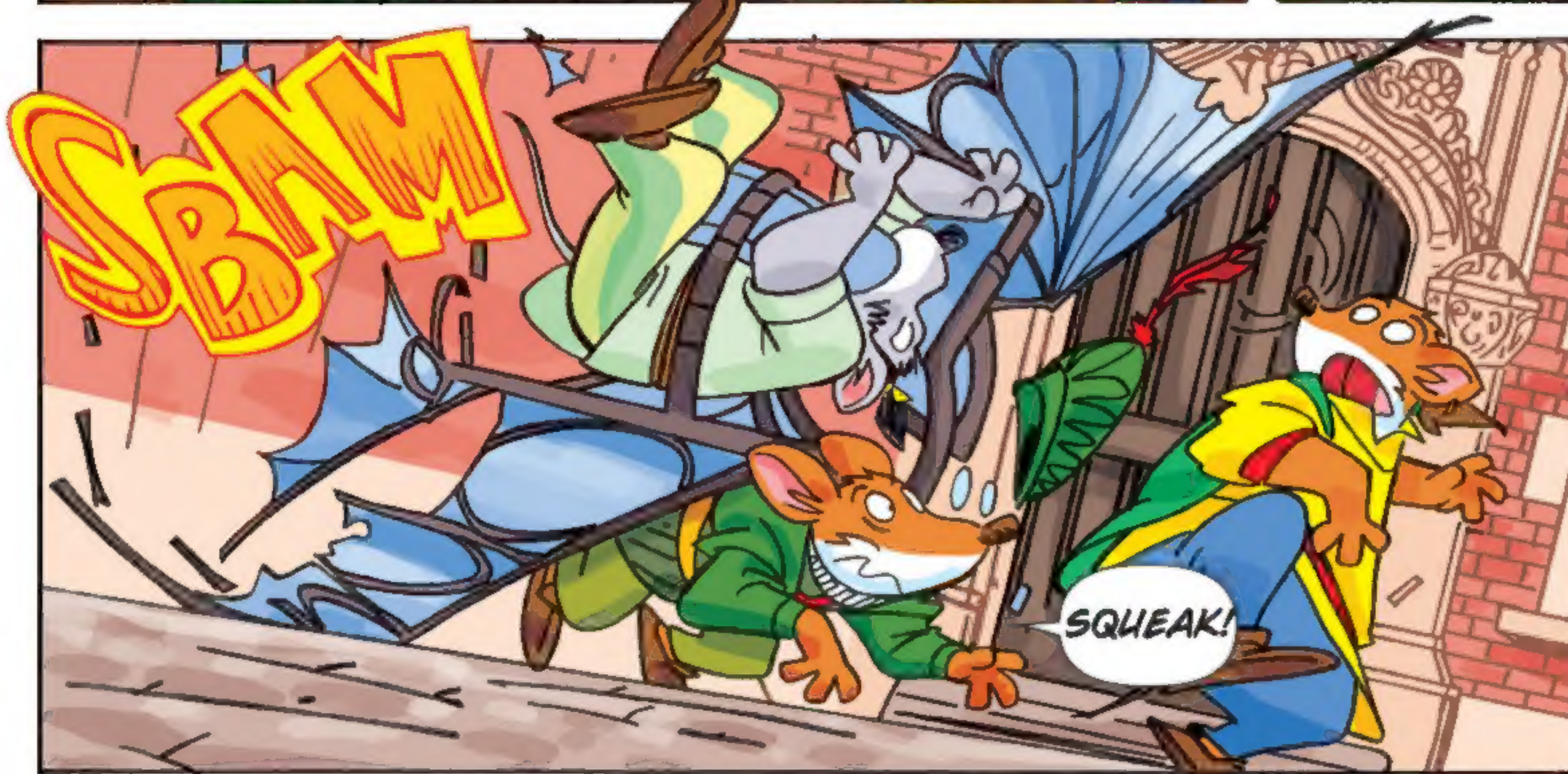


AMBOISE CASTLE

WAS BUILT IN THE 13TH CENTURY ON A BLUFF OVERLOOKING THE LOIRE RIVER IN CENTRAL FRANCE. IN THE FOLLOWING CENTURIES, LARGE GARDENS AND WIDE BALCONIES WERE CREATED HANGING OVER THE RIVER. KING FRANCIS I OF FRANCE USED AMBOISE CASTLE AS HIS HOME WHEN HE STAYED IN THE LOIRE VALLEY.

A LITTLE LATER, WE REACHED THE CASTLE OF CLOUX.





Don't miss **GERONIMO STILTON Graphic Novel #6 – "Who Stole the Mona Lisa?"**

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